



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB1356

Introduced 1/28/2025, by Rep. Anthony DeLuca

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

5 ILCS 490/203 new
105 ILCS 5/24-2

Amends the State Commemorative Dates Act. Provides that the name of each federal holiday and State holiday designated on a unit of local government's calendar must match the name of the federal holiday and State holiday as designated by the State. Defines "federal holiday" and "State holiday". Limits home rule powers. Amends the School Code. In a provision concerning legal holidays, requires the name of each federal and State holiday as specified in that provision to be the name of the holiday that is designated on a school district's calendar for the school term. Effective immediately.

LRB104 05881 LNS 15912 b

1 AN ACT concerning government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The State Commemorative Dates Act is amended by
5 adding Section 203 as follows:

6 (5 ILCS 490/203 new)

7 Sec. 203. State holidays on calendars of units of local
8 government.

9 (a) The name of each federal holiday and State holiday
10 designated on a unit of local government's calendar must match
11 the name of the federal holiday and State holiday as
12 designated by the State.

13 (b) The regulation of the names of federal holidays and
14 State holidays as used by units of local government is an
15 exclusive power and function of the State. A home rule unit may
16 not regulate the names of federal holidays and State holidays
17 as used by the unit of local government. This Section is a
18 denial and limitation of home rule powers and functions under
19 subsection (h) of Section 6 of Article VII of the Illinois
20 Constitution.

21 (c) For the purposes of this Section:

22 "Federal holiday" means New Year's Day, January 1; the
23 Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., the third Monday in

1 January; President's Day, the third Monday in February;
2 Memorial Day, the last Monday in May; Independence Day, July
3 4; Labor Day, the first Monday in September; Columbus Day, the
4 second Monday in October; Veterans Day, November 11;
5 Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November; Christmas
6 Day, December 25; and any other day from time to time declared
7 by the President of the United States to be a day during which
8 the agencies of the State of Illinois that are ordinarily open
9 to do business with the public shall be closed for business.

10 "State holiday" means the Birthday of President Abraham
11 Lincoln, February 12; the first Monday in March (to be known as
12 Casimir Pulaski's birthday); Good Friday; and any other day
13 from time to time declared by the Governor of Illinois to be a
14 day during which the agencies of the State of Illinois that are
15 ordinarily open to do business with the public shall be closed
16 for business.

17 Section 10. The School Code is amended by changing Section
18 24-2 as follows:

19 (105 ILCS 5/24-2)

20 Sec. 24-2. Holidays.

21 (a) Teachers shall not be required to teach on Saturdays,
22 nor, except as provided in subsection (b) of this Section,
23 shall teachers, educational support personnel employees, or
24 other school employees, other than noncertificated school

1 employees whose presence is necessary because of an emergency
2 or for the continued operation and maintenance of school
3 facilities or property, be required to work on legal federal
4 or State holidays ~~school holidays~~, which are January 1, New
5 Year's Day; the third Monday in January, the Birthday of Dr.
6 Martin Luther King, Jr.; February 12, the Birthday of
7 President Abraham Lincoln; the first Monday in March (to be
8 known as Casimir Pulaski's birthday); Good Friday; the day
9 designated as Memorial Day by federal law; June 19, Juneteenth
10 National Freedom Day; July 4, Independence Day; the first
11 Monday in September, Labor Day; the second Monday in October,
12 Columbus Day; November 11, Veterans ~~Veterans~~ Day; the
13 Thursday in November commonly called Thanksgiving Day; and
14 December 25, Christmas Day. The name of each federal and State
15 holiday as specified in this subsection (a) must be the name of
16 the holiday that is designated on a school district's calendar
17 for the school term. Under no circumstance shall a school
18 district either change the name of or celebrate such holiday
19 under a name other than as designated by the State. School
20 boards may grant special holidays whenever in their judgment
21 such action is advisable. No deduction shall be made from the
22 time or compensation of a school employee, including an
23 educational support personnel employee, on account of any
24 legal or special holiday in which that employee would have
25 otherwise been scheduled to work but for the legal or special
26 holiday.

1 (b) A school board or other entity eligible to apply for
2 waivers and modifications under Section 2-3.25g of this Code
3 is authorized to hold school or schedule teachers' institutes,
4 parent-teacher conferences, or staff development on the third
5 Monday in January (the Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King,
6 Jr.); February 12 (the Birthday of President Abraham Lincoln);
7 the first Monday in March (known as Casimir Pulaski's
8 birthday); the second Monday in October (Columbus Day); and
9 November 11 (Veterans' Day), provided that:

10 (1) the person or persons honored by the holiday are
11 recognized through instructional activities conducted on
12 that day or, if the day is not used for student attendance,
13 on the first school day preceding or following that day;
14 and

15 (2) the entity that chooses to exercise this authority
16 first holds a public hearing about the proposal. The
17 entity shall provide notice preceding the public hearing
18 to both educators and parents. The notice shall set forth
19 the time, date, and place of the hearing, describe the
20 proposal, and indicate that the entity will take testimony
21 from educators and parents about the proposal.

22 (c) Commemorative holidays, which recognize specified
23 patriotic, civic, cultural or historical persons, activities,
24 or events, are regular school days. Commemorative holidays
25 are: January 17 (the birthday of Muhammad Ali), January 28 (to
26 be known as Christa McAuliffe Day and observed as a

1 commemoration of space exploration), February 15 (the birthday
2 of Susan B. Anthony), March 29 (Viet Nam War Veterans' Day),
3 September 11 (September 11th Day of Remembrance), September 17
4 (Constitution Day), the school day immediately preceding
5 Veterans' Day (Korean War Veterans' Day), October 1 (Recycling
6 Day), October 7 (Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans Remembrance
7 Day), December 7 (Pearl Harbor Veterans' Day), and any day so
8 appointed by the President or Governor. School boards may
9 establish commemorative holidays whenever in their judgment
10 such action is advisable. School boards shall include
11 instruction relative to commemorated persons, activities, or
12 events on the commemorative holiday or at any other time
13 during the school year and at any point in the curriculum when
14 such instruction may be deemed appropriate. The State Board of
15 Education shall prepare and make available to school boards
16 instructional materials relative to commemorated persons,
17 activities, or events which may be used by school boards in
18 conjunction with any instruction provided pursuant to this
19 paragraph.

20 (d) City of Chicago School District 299 shall observe
21 March 4 of each year as a commemorative holiday. This holiday
22 shall be known as Mayors' Day which shall be a day to
23 commemorate and be reminded of the past Chief Executive
24 Officers of the City of Chicago, and in particular the late
25 Mayor Richard J. Daley and the late Mayor Harold Washington.
26 If March 4 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, Mayors' Day shall be

1 observed on the following Monday.

2 (e) Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to
3 the contrary, November 3, 2020 shall be a State holiday known
4 as 2020 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout
5 the State pursuant to Public Act 101-642. All government
6 offices, with the exception of election authorities, shall be
7 closed unless authorized to be used as a location for election
8 day services or as a polling place.

9 Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the
10 contrary, November 8, 2022 shall be a State holiday known as
11 2022 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout the
12 State under Public Act 102-15.

13 Notwithstanding any other provision of State law to the
14 contrary, November 5, 2024 shall be a State holiday known as
15 2024 General Election Day and shall be observed throughout
16 this State pursuant to Public Act 103-467.

17 (Source: P.A. 102-14, eff. 1-1-22; 102-15, eff. 6-17-21;
18 102-334, eff. 8-9-21; 102-411, eff. 1-1-22; 102-813, eff.
19 5-13-22; 103-15, eff. 7-1-23; 103-395, eff. 1-1-24; 103-467,
20 eff. 8-4-23; 103-605, eff. 7-1-24.)

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
22 becoming law.