

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2017

Legislative Document

No. 914

H.P. 642

House of Representatives, March 7, 2017

An Act To Establish Indigenous People's Day

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative HAMANN of South Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative BAILEY of Saco and
Representatives: BLUME of York, CHAPMAN of Brooksville, HICKMAN of Winthrop,
RYKERSON of Kittery, WARREN of Hallowell, Senators: JACKSON of Aroostook,
SAVIELLO of Franklin.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 1 MRSA §150-N** is enacted to read:

3 **§150-N. Indigenous People's Day**

4 In recognition of the historic, cultural and contemporary significance of the
5 indigenous peoples of the lands that later became known as the Americas, including
6 Maine, and the many contributions of these peoples, the State designates the 2nd Monday
7 in October of each year as Indigenous People's Day. The Governor shall annually issue a
8 proclamation urging the people of the State to observe the day with appropriate
9 celebration and activity.

10 **Sec. 2. 4 MRSA §1051**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1985, c. 819, Pt. A, §1, is
11 amended to read:

12 **§1051. Legal holidays**

13 ~~No court~~ Court may not be held on Sunday or any day designated for the annual
14 Thanksgiving; New Year's Day, January 1st; Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, the 3rd
15 Monday in January; Washington's Birthday, the 3rd Monday in February; Patriot's Day,
16 the 3rd Monday in April; Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, but if the Federal
17 Government designates May 30th as the date for observance of Memorial Day, the 30th
18 of May; the 4th of July; Labor Day, the first Monday of September; ~~Columbus~~
19 Indigenous People's Day, the 2nd Monday in October; Veterans' Day, November 11th; or
20 on Christmas Day. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court may order that court
21 be held on a legal holiday when ~~he~~ the Chief Justice finds that the interests of justice and
22 judicial economy in any particular case will be served. The public offices in county
23 buildings may be closed to business on the holidays named in this section. When any one
24 of the holidays named in this section falls on Sunday, the Monday following ~~shall~~ must
25 be observed as a holiday, with all the privileges applying to any of the days named in this
26 section.

27 **Sec. 3. 9-B MRSA §145, sub-§1, ¶I**, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 398, Pt. B, §2, is
28 amended to read:

29 I. The 2nd Monday in October, ~~Columbus~~ Indigenous People's Day;

30 **Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §4802, sub-§1, ¶E**, as enacted by PL 1981, c. 693, §§5 and
31 8, is amended to read:

32 E. ~~Columbus~~ Indigenous People's Day, the 2nd Monday in October;

33 **Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §4691, sub-§2**, as enacted by PL 1979, c. 571, is amended to
34 read:

35 **2. Business day.** "Business day" means any day other than Saturday, Sunday or the
36 following national holidays: New Year's Day; Washington's Birthday; Memorial Day;
37 Independence Day; Labor Day; ~~Columbus~~ Indigenous People's Day, the 2nd Monday in
38 October; ~~Veteran's~~ Veterans' Day; Thanksgiving; and Christmas.

1

SUMMARY

2

This bill establishes the 2nd Monday in October as Indigenous People's Day and

3

changes references in the Maine Revised Statutes to the federally named Columbus Day

4

to Indigenous People's Day for use in the State.