

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 183

H.P. 136

House of Representatives, January 25, 2021

An Act To Establish Juneteenth as a Paid State Holiday

Received by the Clerk of the House on January 21, 2021. Referred to the Committee on State and Local Government pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative TALBOT ROSS of Portland.
Cosponsored by Representative: EVANS of Dover-Foxcroft.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §1051**, as amended by PL 2019, c. 59, §1 and c. 475, §49, is
3 repealed and the following enacted in its place:

4 **§1051. Legal holidays**

5 Court may not be held on Sunday or any day designated for the annual Thanksgiving;
6 New Year's Day, January 1st; Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, the 3rd Monday in January;
7 Washington's Birthday, the 3rd Monday in February; Patriot's Day, the 3rd Monday in
8 April; Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, but if the Federal Government designates
9 May 30th as the date for observance of Memorial Day, the 30th of May; Juneteenth, June
10 19th; the 4th of July; Labor Day, the first Monday of September; Indigenous Peoples Day,
11 the 2nd Monday in October; Veterans Day, November 11th; or on Christmas Day. The
12 Chief Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court may order that court be held on a legal holiday
13 when the Chief Justice finds that the interests of justice and judicial economy in any
14 particular case will be served. The public offices in county buildings may be closed to
15 business on the holidays named in this section. When any one of the holidays named in
16 this section falls on Sunday, the Monday following must be observed as a holiday, with all
17 the privileges applying to any of the days named in this section.

18 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §59** is enacted to read:

19 **§59. Juneteenth established as state holiday**

20 The State designates June 19th of each year as Juneteenth and as a state holiday. All
21 nonessential state offices must be closed on Juneteenth.

22 **Sec. 3. 9-B MRSA §145, sub-§1, ¶F-1** is enacted to read:

23 F-1. June 19th, Juneteenth;

24 **Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §4802, sub-§1, ¶B-1** is enacted to read:

25 B-1. Juneteenth, June 19th;

26 **SUMMARY**

27 This bill establishes June 19th of each year as Juneteenth and as a state holiday.