

LD 183 An Act To Establish Juneteenth as a Paid State Holiday (Talbot Ross)

To: Members, Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government
From: Lynne Caswell, Esq., Legislative Analyst
Date: February 24, 2021

SUMMARY

This bill establishes June 19th of each year as Juneteenth and as a state holiday (Title 5, §59). As with other state holidays, nonessential state offices are closed. This bill also adds Juneteenth as a holiday for the Judiciary (Title 4, §1051), banks and financial institutions (Title 9-B, §145) and elementary and secondary education institutions (Title 20-A, §4802) .

TESTIMONY

Sponsor : Representative Talbot Ross

Proponents: Bangor NAACP by Michael Alpert, President; ACLU of Maine, by Michael Kebede, Policy Counsel; MSEA by Jeff McCabe (written only: Maine Public Health Association by Rebecca Boulos, ED; Ambassador Maulian Dana, Penobscot Nation; Transforming Racial Lines by June Thornton, Jan Froehlich & Marlena Hatem; David Gibson; James Ford)

Opponents: none

NFNA: Maine State Archives, Kate McBrien – provided the committee with historical information about Juneteenth

POTENTIAL ISSUES / TECHNICAL PROBLEMS

None identified

INFORMATION REQUESTS

None

FISCAL IMPACT - Preliminary (OFPR)

None provided as of this date