



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 1141

H.P. 804

House of Representatives, March 23, 2017

An Act To Make Election Day a State Holiday

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

Robert B. Hunt
ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BATES of Westbrook.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §1051**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1985, c. 819, Pt.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

4 **§1051. Legal holidays**

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

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

20 **§59. Election Day established as state holiday**

21 Election Day, the Tuesday following the first Monday in November, is a state
22 holiday. All nonessential state offices must be closed on Election Day.

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

24 I-1. The first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, Election Day;

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

26 E-1. Election Day, the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November;

27 **SUMMARY**

28 This bill designates Election Day, the first Tuesday after the first Monday in
29 November, as a state holiday.