



# 131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2024

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Legislative Document

No. 2222

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H.P. 1425

House of Representatives, February 21, 2024

### An Act Establishing a State Calendar for the State of Maine

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Reported by Representative STOVER of Boothbay for the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 91, section 2.

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 218.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT  
Clerk

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

**Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §90-H** is enacted to read:

## **§90-H. State calendar**

The Secretary of State or the secretary's designee shall establish a state calendar that includes important religious days and holidays of residents of the State and citizens of the United States.

**1. Purpose of state calendar; limitation.** The state calendar must be established to assist state agencies when scheduling events involving members of the public. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, inclusion on the state calendar does not establish a paid holiday for an employee of the State or an employee of a private entity.

**2. Administration.** By April 15, 2034, and every 10 years thereafter, the Secretary of State or the secretary's designee shall review and update the state calendar in consultation with persons representing the Christian, Muslim and Jewish faith communities, other religious traditions practicing in the State, immigrants in the State, the Permanent Commission on the Status of Racial, Indigenous and Tribal Populations, as established in section 12004-J, subsection 19, and the federally recognized Indian nations, tribes and bands located in the State.

**3. Distribution.** The Secretary of State or the secretary's designee shall distribute no later than June 1st the state calendar for the next calendar year to all state agencies. The Secretary of State shall post the calendar on the publicly accessible website of the office of the Secretary of State.

## SUMMARY

This bill is reported out by the Joint Standing Committee on State and Local Government pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 91 for the sole purpose of referring the bill back to the committee for public hearing and subsequent processing in the normal course of committee work. The bill directs the Secretary of State to establish a state calendar that includes important religious days and holidays. The bill is based on legislation proposed by the office of the Secretary of State in its report, dated January 30, 2024, submitted to the committee pursuant to Resolve 2023, chapter 91.