

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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SENATE BILL 294

Short Title: Make General Election Day A State Holiday. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Garrett, Van Duyn, and Woodard (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

March 20, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO MAKE THE STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION DAY AN OFFICIAL STATE
3 HOLIDAY AND AMENDING THE STATE HUMAN RESOURCES ACT TO MAKE
4 THAT DAY A PAID HOLIDAY FOR STATE EMPLOYEES.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 103-4(a) reads as rewritten:

7 (a) The following are declared to be legal public holidays:

- 8 (1) New Year's Day, January 1.
9 (1a) Martin Luther King, Jr.'s, Birthday, the third Monday in January.
10 (2) Robert E. Lee's Birthday, January 19.
11 (3) Washington's Birthday, the third Monday in February.
12 (3a) Greek Independence Day, March 25.
13 (4) Anniversary of signing of Halifax Resolves, April 12.
14 (5) Confederate Memorial Day, May 10.
15 (6) Anniversary of Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, May 20.
16 (7) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May.
17 (8) Good Friday.
18 (9) Independence Day, July 4.
19 (10) Labor Day, the first Monday in September.
20 (10a) First Responders Day, September 11.
21 (11) Columbus Day, the second Monday in October.
22 (11a) Yom Kippur.
23 (12) Veterans Day, November 11.
24 (13) Tuesday after the first Monday in November in years in which a general
25 election is to be held.
26 (14) Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November.
27 (15) Christmas Day, December 25.

28 (16) Each statewide general election day."

29 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 126-4 reads as rewritten:

30 **"§ 126-4. Powers and duties of State Human Resources Commission.**

31 Subject to the approval of the Governor, the State Human Resources Commission shall
32 establish policies and rules governing each of the following:

33 ...

- 34 (5) Hours and days of work, holidays, vacation, sick leave, and other matters
35 pertaining to the conditions of employment. The legal public holidays
36 established by the Commission as paid holidays for State employees shall



1 include Martin Luther King, Jr.'s ~~Birthday and Veterans Day.~~ Birthday,
2 Veterans Day, and each statewide general election day. The Commission shall
3 not provide for more than ~~12-13~~ paid holidays per year, with three paid
4 holidays being given for Christmas.

5 (5a) In years in which New Year's Day falls on Saturday, the Commission may
6 designate December 31 of the previous calendar year as the New Year's
7 holiday, provided that the number of holidays for the previous calendar year
8 does not exceed ~~12-13~~ and the number of holidays for the current year does
9 not exceed ~~10-11~~. When New Year's Day falls on either Saturday or Sunday,
10 the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina that adopt
11 alternative dates to recognize the legal public holidays set forth in subdivision
12 (5) of this section and established by the Commission may designate, in
13 accordance with the rules of the Commission and the requirements of this
14 subdivision, December 31 of the previous calendar year as the New Year's
15 holiday.

16 ...

17 The policies and rules of the Commission shall not limit the power of any elected or appointed
18 department head, in the department head's discretion and upon the department head's
19 determination that it is in the best interest of the Department, to transfer, demote, or separate a
20 State employee who is not a career State employee as defined by this Chapter."

21 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.