STATE OF NEW YORK

5856

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

March 20, 2023

Introduced by Sens. PARKER, BAILEY, CLEARE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Judiciary

AN ACT to amend the general construction law and the education law, in relation to the designation of Good Friday as a public holiday

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 24 of the general construction law, as amended by chapter 249 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:

§ 24. Public holidays; half-holidays. The term public holiday includes the following days in each year: the first day of January, known as New Year's day; the third Monday of January, known as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. day; the twelfth day of February, known as Lincoln's birthday; the third Monday in February, known as Washington's birthday; **the Friday immediately before Easter, known as Good Friday;** the last Monday in May, known as Memorial day; the second Sunday in June, known as Flag day; the nineteenth day of June, known as Juneteenth; the fourth day of July, known as Independence day; the first Monday in September, known as Labor day; the second Monday in October, known as Columbus day; the eleventh day of November, known as Veterans' day; the fourth Thursday in November, known as Thanksgiving day; and the twenty-fifth day of December, known as Christmas day, and if any of such days except Flag day is Sunday, the next day thereafter; each general election day, and each day appointed by the president of the United States or by the governor of this state as a day of general thanksgiving, general fasting and prayer, or other general religious observances. The term half-holiday includes the period from noon to midnight of each Saturday which is not a public holiday.

§ 2. The education law is amended by adding a new section 3204-a to read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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§ 3204-a. Good Friday school holiday. 1. The Friday immediately before Easter, commonly known as Good Friday, shall be declared a holiday for all public schools.

2. The term "Good Friday" shall replace "Spring Recess" and similar terminology on all public school district calendars and communications that reference Good Friday.

§ 3. Section 3604 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 7-a to read as follows:

7-a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for purposes of any calculation under subdivision seven or eight of this section, the commissioner shall disregard any reduction resulting from the observance of Good Friday and, if necessary, such observed holiday shall be calculated as a session day.

§ 4. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.