STATE OF NEW YORK

4913

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

February 24, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. CHANG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

AN ACT to amend the legislative law and the general construction law, in relation to the identification of Asian Lunar New Year and the declaration of such day as a public holiday

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

Section 1. Section 15 of the legislative law is amended by adding a new undesignated paragraph to read as follows:

The respective secretary and clerk shall accurately identify the proper date of each year's Asian Lunar New Year according to the lunar calendar. The respective secretary and clerk shall consult with representatives of appropriate organizations or other officials in identifying such date. By January first of each calendar year, the secretary and clerk shall identify and report in writing the calendar dates of the next three succeeding lunar new years to the governor, the secretary of state, the state comptroller, the speaker of the assembly, the minority leader of the assembly, the temporary president of the senate, and the minority leader of the senate.

§ 2. 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 Asian Lunar New Year as identified pursuant to section fifteen of the legislative law to be known as Lunar New Year;** the twelfth day of February, known as Lincoln's birthday; the third Monday in February, known as Washington's birthday; 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

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

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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.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that section two of this act shall take effect on the first Asian Lunar New Year identified by the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the assembly pursuant to section 15 of the legislative law; provided, further, that the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the assembly shall notify the legislative bill drafting commission upon the occurrence of the enactment of the legislation provided for in section two of this act in order that the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective data base of the official text of the laws of state of New York in furtherance of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative law and section 70-b of the public officers law.