

STATE OF NEW YORK

2227

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 16, 2025

Introduced by Sen. RAMOS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Finance

AN ACT to amend the executive law, the transportation law, the vehicle and traffic law, the town law, the county law, the general construction law and the personal property law, in relation to changing the designation of the public holiday of Columbus day to Indigenous People's day

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

1 Section 1. The legislature hereby declares that beginning the second
2 Monday in October 2025, the holiday formerly known as Columbus day will
3 be designated as Indigenous People's day.
4 § 2. Subdivision 2 of section 403 of the executive law, as amended by
5 chapter 666 of the laws of 2004, is amended to read as follows:
6 2. The flag shall be displayed daily, weather permitting, on or near
7 the main administration building of every public institution, whenever
8 such institution is open to the public. The flag shall also be
9 displayed, weather permitting, on the following days in each year: the
10 first day of January, known as New Year's day; the third Monday of Janu-
11 ary, known as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. day; the twelfth day of Febru-
12 ary, known as Lincoln's birthday; the third Monday in February, known as
13 Washington's birthday; the last Monday in May, known as Memorial day;
14 the second Sunday of June, known as Flag day; the fourth day of July,
15 known as Independence day; the first Monday in September, known as Labor
16 day; the third Friday in September, known as National POW/MIA Recogni-
17 tion day, except if such date of commemoration cannot be observed due to
18 a religious holiday, such observances shall then be conducted on the
19 second Friday in September; September eleventh, known as September 11th
20 Remembrance Day; the second Monday in October, known as [~~Columbus~~]
21 Indigenous People's day; the eleventh day of November, known as Veterans
22 day; the fourth Thursday in November, known as Thanksgiving day; the

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

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seventh day of December, known as Pearl Harbor 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 or for displaying the flag.

§ 3. Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (e) of subdivision 4 of section 14-f of the transportation law, as amended by chapter 173 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:

(i) Any complaint issued for an equipment violation, except for a violation involving an out-of-service defect or except for a violation involving the operation of any motor vehicle after it has been placed out of service, shall be dismissed by the court before such summons is returnable if the violation as set forth in the summons is corrected not later than one-half hour after sunset on the first full business day after the issuance of the summons and proof of such correction as set forth in subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph is submitted to the court. For the purposes of this subparagraph, "business day" shall mean any calendar day except Sunday, or the following business holidays: New Year's Day, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, [Columbus] Indigenous People's Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

§ 4. Item (a) of subparagraph (iv) of paragraph c of subdivision 2 of section 140 of the transportation law, as separately amended by chapters 369 and 654 of the laws of 1994, such paragraph as relettered by section 6 of part G of chapter 58 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Any complaint issued for an equipment violation, except for a violation involving an out-of-service defect relating to load securement, brake systems, steering components and/or coupling devices or except for a violation involving the operation of any motor vehicle after it has been placed out-of-service, shall be dismissed by the court before such summons is returnable if the violation as set forth in the summons is corrected not later than one-half hour after sunset on the first full business day, or if such complaint involves a farm vehicle registered pursuant to subdivision thirteen of section four hundred one of the vehicle and traffic law and operated in conformance with the terms of such registration, not later than one-half hour after sunset on the third full business day after the issuance of the summons and proof of such correction as set forth in item (b) of this subparagraph is submitted to the court. For the purposes of this subparagraph, "business day" shall mean any calendar day except Sunday, or the following business holidays: New Year's Day, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, [Columbus] Indigenous People's Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

§ 5. Subdivision 4 of section 376-a of the vehicle and traffic law, as amended by chapter 302 of the laws of 2013, is amended to read as follows:

4. Any complaint issued for any violation of section three hundred seventy-five, three hundred seventy-six or three hundred eighty-one of this article relative to required equipment, except a violation described in subdivision two of this section, subdivision forty-seven of section three hundred seventy-five of this article, and except for a violation relating to service brakes, shall be dismissed by the court before which the summons is returnable if the violation as set forth in the summons is corrected not later than one-half hour after sunset on

1 the first full business day after the issuance of the summons and proof
2 of such correction as set forth in subdivision five of this section is
3 submitted to the court. For the purposes of this subdivision, "business
4 day" shall mean any calendar day except Saturday and Sunday, or the
5 following business holidays: New Year's Day, Washington's Birthday,
6 Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, [~~Columbus~~] Indigenous
7 People's Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

8 § 6. Subdivision 12 of section 64 of the town law, as amended by chap-
9 ter 658 of the laws of 2004, is amended to read as follows:

10 12. Appropriations for Independence day, Memorial day, [~~Columbus~~]
11 Indigenous People's day and Veterans day. Any town may appropriate annu-
12 ally such sums as it may deem appropriate for the purpose of defraying
13 the expenses of the proper observance of Independence day, Memorial or
14 Decoration day, [~~Columbus~~] Indigenous People's day and Veterans day in
15 such proportion as it may determine. Any town of the first class, or,
16 any town having a population of five thousand inhabitants or more,
17 excepting any such town having a population of two hundred twenty-five
18 thousand inhabitants or more, according to the latest federal census, in
19 which one or more posts, camps or chapters of the Grand Army of the
20 Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars,
21 the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Inc., the Catholic War
22 Veterans, Inc., the Italian American War Veterans of the United States,
23 Incorporated, the Polish Legion of American Veterans, Inc., the Marine
24 Corps League, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Inc., the American
25 Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, American Veterans of
26 World War II, Masonic War Veterans of the State of New York, Inc.,
27 Veterans of World War I of the United States of America Department of
28 New York, Inc., China-Burma-India Veterans Association, Inc., Polish-Am-
29 erican Veterans of World War II, Amsterdam, N. Y., Inc., Polish-American
30 Veterans of World War II, Schenectady, N. Y., Inc., the Sons of Union
31 Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, World War Veterans Club of
32 Lindenhurst, Inc. or the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association exists,
33 may appropriate annually an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars
34 for such purpose, and any town having a population of two hundred twen-
35 ty-five thousand inhabitants or more, according to the latest federal
36 census, in which one or more such posts, camps or chapters exists may
37 annually appropriate an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars for
38 such purpose, and any town which has a population of five hundred thou-
39 sand inhabitants or more, according to the latest federal census, in
40 which one or more such posts, camps or chapters exists may annually
41 appropriate an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars for such
42 purpose. Any moneys appropriated pursuant to the provisions of this
43 subdivision shall be a general town charge, except that in any town
44 having a population of two hundred twenty-five thousand inhabitants or
45 more there shall be a charge on that portion of the town outside of any
46 village therein and shall be assessed, levied and collected from real
47 property outside of any such village. Such sum when collected shall be
48 paid to the supervisor of such town and be disbursed by [~~him~~] such
49 supervisor in such manner as the town board of such town may direct upon
50 vouchers properly receipted and audited by the town board of such town;
51 except that in any town in which there may be a post, camp or chapter of
52 the Grand Army of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, the
53 Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States,
54 Inc., the Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the Italian American War Veterans
55 of the United States, Incorporated, the Polish Legion of American Veter-
56 ans, Inc., the Marine Corps League, the Military Order of the Purple

1 Heart, Inc., the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans,
2 AMVETS, American Veterans of World War II, Masonic War Veterans of the
3 State of New York, Inc., Veterans of World War I of the United States of
4 America Department of New York, Inc., China-Burma-India Veterans Associ-
5 ation, Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Amsterdam, N. Y.,
6 Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Schenectady, N. Y.,
7 Inc., the Sons of Union Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, World War
8 Veterans Club of Lindenhurst, Inc. or the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans
9 Association, in any such town, the commanders and quartermasters of such
10 posts, camp or chapter may direct the manner and extent of such obser-
11 vance and the supervisor shall pay the expenses thereof upon the order
12 or orders of the commander or quartermaster of such post, camp or chap-
13 ter, which orders shall be [~~his~~] their vouchers for such payment, and in
14 case there may be two or more posts, camps or chapters of the Grand Army
15 of the Republic, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veterans of
16 Foreign Wars, the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, Inc., the
17 Catholic War Veterans, Inc., the Italian American War Veterans of the
18 United States, Incorporated, the Polish Legion of American Veterans,
19 Inc., the Marine Corps League, the Military Order of the Purple Heart,
20 Inc., the American Legion, the Disabled American Veterans, AMVETS, Amer-
21 ican Veterans of World War II, Masonic War Veterans of the State of New
22 York, Inc., Veterans of World War I of the United States of America
23 Department of New York, Inc., China-Burma-India Veterans Association,
24 Inc., Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Amsterdam, N. Y., Inc.,
25 Polish-American Veterans of World War II, Schenectady, N. Y., Inc., the
26 Sons of Union Veterans, Vietnam Veterans of America, World War Veterans
27 Club of Lindenhurst, Inc. or the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association,
28 in any such town, the commanders and quartermasters of such posts, camps
29 or chapters by concurrent action, shall direct the supervisor of such
30 town what proportion of such moneys so raised shall be expended by each
31 of such posts, camps or chapters which proportion shall be paid by such
32 supervisor upon the order or orders of the commander and quartermaster
33 of each of such posts. In case there is a post, camp or chapter in a
34 town adjoining a town in which no post, camp or chapter is located,
35 whose membership includes at least three residents of such town having
36 no post, camp or chapter, the post, camp or chapter shall appoint a
37 committee of not less than three of its members who are residents of the
38 said adjoining town in which the post, camp or chapter is not located,
39 and the supervisor of said town shall pay the expenses of observance of
40 Independence day, Memorial or Decoration day and Veterans day upon the
41 order or orders of said committee or a majority thereof, which orders
42 shall be [~~his~~] their vouchers for such payment.

43 § 7. Section 226-a of the county law, as added by chapter 80 of the
44 laws of 1969, is amended to read as follows:

45 § 226-a. Patriotic observances. The county legislature and/or board of
46 supervisors, as the case may be, of any county or borough outside the
47 city of New York, is hereby authorized to appropriate and set aside each
48 year such sums it may deem proper for the purpose of providing for the
49 due and proper observance of any legal holiday, including [~~Co-lumbus~~]
50 Indigenous People's day.

51 § 8. Section 24 of the general construction law, as amended by chapter
52 249 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:

53 § 24. Public holidays; half-holidays. The term public holiday includes
54 the following days in each year: the first day of January, known as New
55 Year's day; the third Monday of January, known as Dr. Martin Luther
56 King, Jr. day; the twelfth day of February, known as Lincoln's birthday;

1 the third Monday in February, known as Washington's birthday; the last
2 Monday in May, known as Memorial day; the second Sunday in June, known
3 as Flag day; the nineteenth day of June, known as Juneteenth; the fourth
4 day of July, known as Independence day; the first Monday in September,
5 known as Labor day; the second Monday in October, known as [~~Columbus~~]
6 Indigenous People's day; the eleventh day of November, known as Veter-
7 ans' day; the fourth Thursday in November, known as Thanksgiving day;
8 and the twenty-fifth day of December, known as Christmas day, and if any
9 of such days except Flag day is Sunday, the next day thereafter; each
10 general election day, and each day appointed by the president of the
11 United States or by the governor of this state as a day of general
12 thanksgiving, general fasting and prayer, or other general religious
13 observances. The term half-holiday includes the period from noon to
14 midnight of each Saturday which is not a public holiday.

15 § 9. Subdivision 6 of section 426 of the personal property law, as
16 added by chapter 659 of the laws of 1976, is amended to read as follows:

17 6. "Business day" shall mean any calendar day except Sunday, or the
18 following business holidays: New Year's Day, Washington's Birthday,
19 Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, [~~Columbus~~] Indigenous
20 People's Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.

21 § 10. Subdivision 7 of section 441 of the personal property law, as
22 added by chapter 326 of the laws of 1995, is amended to read as follows:

23 7. "Business day" shall mean any calendar day except Sunday, or the
24 following business holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day,
25 Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day,
26 [~~Columbus~~] Indigenous People's Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and
27 Christmas Day.

28 § 11. This act shall take effect immediately.