

STATE OF NEW YORK

2598--A

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 21, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. SAYEGH, JACKSON, GALLAGHER, MAMDANI, FORREST, MITAYNES, FALL, SHRESTHA, EPSTEIN, ZACCARO, TAPIA, RAMOS, SEAWRIGHT, BURDICK, GONZALEZ-ROJAS, RAGA, WEPRIN, BERGER, COLTON, ROZIC, ALVAREZ, STERN, BLUMENCRANZ, P. CARROLL, RAJKUMAR, EACHUS, ROSENTHAL, LUNSFORD, BICHOTTE HERMELYN, LEE, CHANG, CUNNINGHAM, BRAUNSTEIN, BORES, TAYLOR, WILLIAMS, PHEFFER AMATO, SHIMSKY, TAGUE, SIMONE, MIKULIN, HEVESI, RA, BURROUGHS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to establishing Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha as school holidays

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision 8 of section 3604 of the education law, as
2 amended by chapter 359 of the laws of 2023, is amended to read as
3 follows:
4 8. No school shall be in session on a Saturday, the first day of the
5 second lunar month after the winter solstice in the preceding calendar
6 year known as Asian Lunar New Year, or a legal holiday, except general
7 election day, Washington's birthday and Lincoln's birthday, and except
8 that driver education classes may be conducted on a Saturday. For muni-
9 cipalities and school districts with a population of fifty thousand or
10 more, the foregoing shall also apply to the holidays of Eid al-Fitr and
11 Eid al-Adha, as affixed by Muslim religious law and tradition. For muni-
12 cipalities and school districts with a population of less than fifty
13 thousand, the foregoing may apply if such municipality or school
14 district opts into the recognition of the holidays of Eid al-Fitr and
15 Eid al-Adha. A deficiency not exceeding four days during any school year
16 caused by teachers' attendance upon conferences held by superintendents
17 of schools of city school districts or other school districts employing
18 superintendents of schools shall be excused by the commissioner,

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

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1 notwithstanding any provision of law, rule or regulation to the contra-
2 ry, a school district may elect to schedule such conference days in the
3 last two weeks of August, subject to collective bargaining requirements
4 pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law, and such days
5 shall be counted towards the required one hundred eighty days of
6 session, provided however, that such scheduling shall not alter the
7 obligation of the school district to provide transportation to students
8 in non-public elementary and secondary schools or charter schools. At
9 least two such conference days during such school year shall be dedi-
10 cated to staff attendance upon conferences providing staff development
11 relating to implementation of the new high learning standards and
12 assessments, as adopted by the board of regents. Notwithstanding any
13 other provision of law, rule or regulation to the contrary, school
14 districts may elect to use one or more of such allowable conference days
15 in units of not less than one hour each to provide staff development
16 activities relating to implementation of the new high learning standards
17 and assessments. A district making such election may provide such staff
18 development on any day during which sessions are allowed and apply such
19 units to satisfy a deficiency in the length of one or more daily
20 sessions of instruction for pupils as specified in regulations of the
21 commissioner. The commissioner shall assure that such conference days
22 include appropriate school violence prevention and intervention train-
23 ing, and may require that up to one such conference day be dedicated for
24 such purpose.

25 § 2. Subdivision 2-a of section 3635 of the education law, as sepa-
26 rately amended by chapters 359 and 629 of the laws of 2023, is amended
27 to read as follows:

28 2-a. The superintendent of each city school district, in a city having
29 a population in excess of one million, shall prepare a public school
30 calendar and shall notify officials of nonpublic schools to which trans-
31 portation has been requested not later than the first day of June in
32 each year, of the days on which the public schools will be in session in
33 the following school year. Such school district which provides transpor-
34 tation to nonpublic schools shall provide such transportation for the
35 same number of days as the public schools are open but shall not provide
36 transportation services for more than one hundred eighty days. Offi-
37 cials of each nonpublic school to which transportation is provided by a
38 city school district of a city having a population in excess of one
39 million may notify such district, not later than the first day of July
40 of each school year, of a maximum of five days, exclusive of Saturdays,
41 Sundays or legal holidays upon which public schools are required to be
42 closed, on which the public schools are scheduled to be closed, except
43 that in any year in which the first or last day of Passover and Easter
44 Sunday are separated by more than seven days, such officials may notify
45 the district of a maximum of ten days, but such school district will be
46 required to provide for transportation to such nonpublic school provided
47 that such five or ten additional days, whichever is applicable, are
48 limited to the following: the Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
49 after Labor Day, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, the week in which public
50 schools are closed for spring recess, December twenty-fourth and the
51 week between Christmas day and New Year's day, the Tuesday, Wednesday,
52 Thursday and Friday after the observance of Washington's birthday, the
53 first day of the second lunar month after the winter solstice in the
54 preceding calendar year, known as Asian Lunar New Year, the fifteenth
55 day of the eighth month of the Indian calendar in each year, known as
56 Diwali, the holidays of Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha, as affixed by

1 Muslim religious law and tradition, and, in the boroughs of Brooklyn and
2 Queens only, Anniversary Day as designated in section twenty-five
3 hundred eighty-six of this chapter.
4 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.