

# STATE OF NEW YORK

4743

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 6, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. CHANG, BENDETT, NOVAKHOV, SMULLEN, TAGUE, MAHER, GIGLIO, MILLER, BEEPHAN, SLATER -- 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:

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

3 The respective secretary and clerk shall accurately identify the prop-  
4 er date of each year's Asian Lunar New Year according to the lunar  
5 calendar. The respective secretary and clerk shall consult with repre-  
6 sentatives of appropriate organizations or other officials in identify-  
7 ing such date. By January first of each calendar year, the secretary  
8 and clerk shall identify and report in writing the calendar dates of the  
9 next three succeeding lunar new years to the governor, the secretary of  
10 state, the state comptroller, the speaker of the assembly, the minority  
11 leader of the assembly, the temporary president of the senate, and the  
12 minority leader of the senate.

13 § 2. Section 24 of the general construction law, as amended by chapter  
14 249 of the laws of 2020, is amended to read as follows:

15 § 24. Public holidays; half-holidays. The term public holiday includes  
16 the following days in each year: the first day of January, known as New  
17 Year's day; the third Monday of January, known as Dr. Martin Luther  
18 King, Jr. day; the Asian Lunar New Year as identified pursuant to  
19 section fifteen of the legislative law to be known as Lunar New Year;  
20 the twelfth day of February, known as Lincoln's birthday; the third  
21 Monday in February, known as Washington's birthday; the last Monday in  
22 May, known as Memorial day; the second Sunday in June, known as Flag  
23 day; the nineteenth day of June, known as Juneteenth; the fourth day of

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

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1 July, known as Independence day; the first Monday in September, known as  
2 Labor day; the second Monday in October, known as Columbus day; the  
3 eleventh day of November, known as Veterans' day; the fourth Thursday in  
4 November, known as Thanksgiving day; and the twenty-fifth day of Decem-  
5 ber, known as Christmas day, and if any of such days except Flag day is  
6 Sunday, the next day thereafter; each general election day, and each day  
7 appointed by the president of the United States or by the governor of  
8 this state as a day of general thanksgiving, general fasting and prayer,  
9 or other general religious observances. The term half-holiday includes  
10 the period from noon to midnight of each Saturday which is not a public  
11 holiday.

12 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that section two  
13 of this act shall take effect on the first Asian Lunar New Year identi-  
14 fied by the secretary of the senate and the clerk of the assembly pursu-  
15 ant to section 15 of the legislative law; provided, further, that the  
16 secretary of the senate and the clerk of the assembly shall notify the  
17 legislative bill drafting commission upon the occurrence of the enact-  
18 ment of the legislation provided for in section two of this act in order  
19 that the commission may maintain an accurate and timely effective data  
20 base of the official text of the laws of state of New York in further-  
21 ance of effectuating the provisions of section 44 of the legislative law  
22 and section 70-b of the public officers law.