

HOUSE BILL 1078

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9lr2371

By: **Delegate Guyton**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2019

Assigned to: Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Education – Public School Holidays – Presidents’ Day and Easter

FOR the purpose of repealing a provision of law designating Presidents’ Day and the Monday after Easter as public school holidays; clarifying that the requirement that public schools devote a part of the day to appropriate exercises for certain days applies if the public schools are open and in session; requiring public schools to devote part of the day to appropriate exercises for the observance of Presidents’ Day; and generally relating to public school holidays.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 7–103(c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2018 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Education

7–103.

- (c) (1) The following days are public school holidays:
 - (i) Thanksgiving Day and the day after;
 - (ii) Christmas Eve and from then through January 1;
 - (iii) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(iv) [Presidents' Day;

(v)] The Friday before Easter [and from then through the Monday after Easter];

[(vi)] (V) Memorial Day; and

[(vii)] (VI) Primary and general election days.

(2) If the federal and State observances of a holiday are on different days, the board of education of each county shall determine which date shall be the date of observance for the public schools within the county.

(3) [The] **IF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ARE OPEN AND IN SESSION, THE** public schools shall devote a part of the day to appropriate exercises for the following days:

(i) Washington's Birthday;

(ii) Lincoln's Birthday;

(III) PRESIDENTS' DAY;

[(iii)] (IV) Veterans' Day;

[(iv)] (V) Columbus Day;

[(v)] (VI) Arbor Day; and

[(vi)] (VII) Any other day of national significance.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, the public schools, in the following counties, may remain open and in session on primary and general election days:

(i) Calvert;

(ii) Caroline;

(iii) Dorchester;

(iv) Kent;

(v) Talbot; and

(vi) Worcester.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019.