

HOUSE BILL 868

P1, F1

0lr1043
CF 0lr0863

By: **Delegates W. Fisher, Acevero, Atterbeary, Barron, Charkoudian, Charles, Crutchfield, Fraser-Hidalgo, Henson, Hill, Ivey, Johnson, Kelly, J. Lewis, R. Lewis, Lopez, Moon, Palakovich Carr, Shetty, Solomon, Stewart, Terrasa, Wells, Wilkins, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Ways and Means

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State and Public School Holidays – Designation and Observance**

3 FOR the purpose of designating a certain public school holiday as American Indian
4 Heritage Day; requiring public schools to devote a part of at least one day to
5 appropriate exercises for American Indian Heritage Day; designating a certain day
6 for Constitution Day and Citizenship Day as a public school holiday; repealing
7 Columbus Day as a legal State holiday; designating a certain day for Constitution
8 Day and Citizenship Day as a legal State holiday; designating statewide primary
9 election days as legal State holidays; and generally relating to legal and public school
10 holidays.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
12 Article – Education
13 Section 7–103(c)(1) and (3)
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
17 Article – General Provisions
18 Section 1–111(a)
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2019 Replacement Volume)

21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
22 Article – State Personnel and Pensions
23 Section 9–201
24 Annotated Code of Maryland
25 (2015 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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

3 **Article – Education**

4 7–103.

5 (c) (1) The following days are public school holidays:

6 (i) Thanksgiving Day and the day after **FOR AMERICAN INDIAN**
7 **HERITAGE DAY;**

8 (ii) Christmas Eve and from then through January 1;

9 (iii) Martin Luther King, Jr. Day;

10 (iv) Presidents' Day;

11 (v) The Friday before Easter and from then through the Monday
12 after Easter;

13 (vi) Memorial Day; [and]

14 (vii) **SEPTEMBER 17, FOR CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP**
15 **DAY; AND**

16 **(VIII)** Primary and general election days.

17 (3) The public schools shall devote a part of at least one day to appropriate
18 exercises for each of the following:

19 (i) Washington's Birthday;

20 (ii) Lincoln's Birthday;

21 (iii) Veterans' Day;

22 (iv) Columbus Day;

23 (v) Arbor Day;

24 (vi) Black History Month, with an emphasis on Harriet Tubman and
25 Frederick Douglass and the contributions they made in the fight against slavery; [and]

26 (vii) **AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE DAY; AND**

1 (VIII) Any other day of national significance.

2 **Article – General Provisions**

3 1–111.

4 (a) In this Code and any regulation or directive adopted under it, “legal holiday”
5 means:

6 (1) January 1, for New Year’s Day;

7 (2) (i) January 15, for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday; or

8 (ii) if the United States Congress designates another day for
9 observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday, the day designated by the United
10 States Congress;

11 (3) February 12, for Lincoln’s birthday;

12 (4) the third Monday in February, for Washington’s birthday;

13 (5) March 25, for Maryland Day;

14 (6) Good Friday;

15 (7) (i) May 30, for Memorial Day; or

16 (ii) if the United States Congress designates another day for
17 observance of Memorial Day, the day designated by the United States Congress;

18 (8) July 4, for Independence Day;

19 (9) the first Monday in September, for Labor Day;

20 (10) September 12, for Defenders’ Day;

21 [(11) (i) October 12, for Columbus Day; or

22 (ii) if the United States Congress designates another day for
23 observance of Columbus Day, the day designated by the United States Congress;]

24 **(11) SEPTEMBER 17, FOR CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY;**

25 (12) November 11, for Veterans’ Day;

- 1 (13) the fourth Thursday in November, for Thanksgiving Day;
- 2 (14) the Friday after Thanksgiving Day, for American Indian Heritage Day;
- 3 (15) December 25, for Christmas Day;
- 4 (16) each statewide **PRIMARY AND** general election day in the State; and
- 5 (17) each other day that the President of the United States or the Governor
6 designates for general cessation of business.

7 **Article – State Personnel and Pensions**

8 9–201.

9 In this title, “employee holiday” includes:

- 10 (1) January 1, for New Year’s Day;
- 11 (2) January 15, for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday, unless the
12 United States Congress designates another day for observance of that legal holiday, in
13 which case, the day designated by the United States Congress;
- 14 (3) the third Monday in February, for Presidents’ Day;
- 15 (4) May 30, for Memorial Day, unless the United States Congress
16 designates another day for observance of that legal holiday, in which case, the day
17 designated by the United States Congress;
- 18 (5) July 4, for Independence Day;
- 19 (6) the first Monday in September, for Labor Day;
- 20 [(7) October 12, for Columbus Day, unless the United States Congress
21 designates another day for observance of that legal holiday, in which case, the day
22 designated by the United States Congress;]
- 23 **(7) SEPTEMBER 17, FOR CONSTITUTION DAY AND CITIZENSHIP DAY;**
- 24 (8) November 11, for Veterans’ Day;
- 25 (9) the fourth Thursday in November, for Thanksgiving Day;
- 26 (10) the Friday after Thanksgiving Day, for American Indian Heritage Day;
- 27 (11) December 25, for Christmas Day;

1 (12) each statewide **PRIMARY AND** general election day in this State; and

2 (13) each other day that the President of the United States or the Governor
3 designates for general cessation of business.

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
5 1, 2020.