



129th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2019

Legislative Document

No. 431

H.P. 340

House of Representatives, January 29, 2019

An Act To Make Election Day a State Holiday

Reference to the Committee on State and Local Government suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative COLLINGS of Portland.

Cosponsored by Speaker GIDEON of Freeport, Senator LUCHINI of Hancock, Senator MIRAMANT of Knox and Representatives: BEEBE-CENTER of Rockland, CARDONE of Bangor, MOONEN of Portland, MORALES of South Portland, STROM of Pittsfield, Senators: DILL of Penobscot, LAWRENCE of York, MILLETT of Cumberland.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 4 MRSA §1051**, as repealed and replaced by PL 1985, c. 819, Pt. A, §1, is
3 amended to read:

4 **§1051. Legal holidays**

5 ~~No court~~ Court may not be held on Sunday or any day designated for the annual
6 Thanksgiving; New Year's Day, January 1st; Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, the 3rd
7 Monday in January; Washington's Birthday, the 3rd Monday in February; Patriot's Day,
8 the 3rd Monday in April; Memorial Day, the last Monday in May, but if the Federal
9 Government designates May 30th as the date for observance of Memorial Day, the 30th
10 of May; the 4th of July; Labor Day, the first Monday of September; Columbus Day, the
11 2nd Monday in October; the day of the general election, as defined in Title 21-A, section
12 1, subsection 19; Veterans' Day, November 11th; or ~~on~~ Christmas Day. The Chief Justice
13 of the Supreme Judicial Court may order that court be held on a legal holiday when ~~he~~ the
14 Chief Justice finds that the interests of justice and judicial economy in any particular case
15 will be served. The public offices in county buildings may be closed to business on the
16 holidays named in this section. When any one of the holidays named in this section falls
17 on Sunday, the Monday following ~~shall~~ must be observed as a holiday, with all the
18 privileges applying to any of the days named in this section.

19 **Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §59** is enacted to read:

20 **§59. General election day established as state holiday**

21 The day of the general election, as defined in Title 21-A, section 1, subsection 19, is a
22 state holiday. All nonessential state offices must be closed on the day of the general
23 election.

24 **Sec. 3. 9-B MRSA §145, sub-§1, ¶I-1** is enacted to read:

25 I-1. The day of the general election, as defined in Title 21-A, section 1, subsection
26 19;

27 **Sec. 4. 20-A MRSA §4802, sub-§1, ¶E-1** is enacted to read:

28 E-1. The day of the general election, as defined in Title 21-A, section 1, subsection
29 19;

30 **SUMMARY**

31 This bill designates the day of the general election, which is the day of the regular
32 election of state and county officials occurring biennially in November, as a state holiday.