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S.B. 334
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Passed by the Senate

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Craig and Brenner

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SUMMARY

- Establishes the nineteenth day of June, known as Juneteenth Day, as a legal holiday for which certain government employees receive paid leave and for which school districts may dismiss school.
- By including Juneteenth Day as a legal holiday, requires this day to be excluded when determining procedural deadlines in several provisions of law.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Juneteenth as a legal holiday

The bill establishes the nineteenth day of June, known as Juneteenth Day, as a legal holiday. Under current law, June 19 is designated “Juneteenth National Freedom Day” (which law the bill amends to “Juneteenth”) to acknowledge the freedom, history, and culture that June 19, 1865, the day on which the last slaves in the United States were set free in Texas, has come to symbolize. Currently, the day is not a legal holiday for which paid leave is provided to government employees, nor is it recognized as a day for which schools may be dismissed or a business holiday or legal holiday excluded when certain procedural deadlines are determined.¹

Paid holiday

The bill establishes Juneteenth as a legal holiday for which certain government employees receive paid leave. A government employee receives the employee’s regular rate of pay for, but is not required to work on, certain legal holidays set forth in the Revised Code. The bill applies to the following government employees:

- State employees who are paid in whole or part by the state.

¹ R.C. 1.14 and 5.2247.

- Any full-time county employee whose regular hours are 40 hours per week or who renders any other standard of service accepted as full-time by an office, department, or agency of county service. The bill does not apply to a superintendent or management employee of a county board of developmental disabilities.
- Any township employee working on a salary or hourly basis.
- All regular nonteaching school employees that are employed on an 11- or 12-month basis and are either salaried or compensated on an hourly per diem basis.

Under continuing law, the above described government employees receive paid leave for the following legal holidays: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Day, Washington-Lincoln Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans’ Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.²

Procedural deadlines

The bill adds Juneteenth Day to the list of days excluded from the definition of a “business day” for purposes of the Home Solicitation Sales Law. Under continuing law, which includes a buyer’s three-business-day right of cancellation period, all of the following are business holidays excluded from the definition of a “business day”: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents’ Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day.³

Moreover, by adding Juneteenth Day to those days that are legal holidays,⁴ the bill affects procedural deadlines in laws that exclude “legal holidays” when determining deadlines. The bill also affects deadlines that refer to “business days” by excluding Juneteenth Day from the definitions of “business day” in several other provisions of law. Examples of laws affected by the bill include the provisions regarding deadlines for the judicial or execution sale of real estate, civil actions alleging a violation of an accessibility law, and hearings for the issuance of temporary orders to protect an adult with developmental disabilities from immediate physical harm.⁵

School dismissal

The bill allows boards of education to dismiss schools under their control on Juneteenth Day in addition to the list of holidays in current law for which school may be dismissed.⁶

² R.C. 1.14, 124.19, 325.19, 511.10, and 3319.087; 124.01 and 124.18, not in the bill.

³ R.C. 1345.21(I).

⁴ R.C. 1.14.

⁵ R.C. 2329.152, 4112.16, and 5126.332, not in the bill.

⁶ R.C. 3313.63.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	06-29-20
Reported, S. General Government & Agency Review	12-02-20
Passed Senate (33-0)	12-02-20
