

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 61

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAYHAM

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 1:55(A)(1) and (7), (B)(2), (D), and (E)(1)(a)(i) and to enact R.S.
3 1:58.10, relative to holidays; to provide relative to Presidents' Day; to provide for
4 George Washington's birthday; to provide for the Battle of New Orleans Day; and
5 to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 1:55(A)(1) and (7), (B)(2), (D), and (E)(1)(a)(i) are hereby amended
8 and reenacted and R.S. 1:58.10 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §55. Days of public rest, legal holidays, and half-holidays

10 A. The following shall be days of public rest and legal holidays and
11 half-holidays:

12 (1) The following shall be days of public rest and legal holidays: Sundays;
13 January 1, New Year's Day; January 8, Battle of New Orleans; the third Monday in
14 January, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday; the third Monday in February,
15 Washington's Birthday ~~and Presidents' Day~~; the day of Mardi Gras; Good Friday; the
16 last Monday in May, National Memorial Day; July 4, Independence Day; August 30,
17 Huey P. Long Day; the first Monday in September, Labor Day; the second Monday
18 in October, Christopher Columbus Day; November 1, All Saints' Day; November 11,
19 Veterans' Day; the fourth Thursday in November, Thanksgiving Day; December 25,
20 Christmas Day; Inauguration Day in the city of Baton Rouge; provided, however,
21 that in the parish of Orleans, the city of Baton Rouge, in each of the parishes
22 comprising the second and sixth congressional districts, except the parish of
23 Ascension, and in each of the parishes comprising the fourteenth and thirty-first
24 judicial districts of the state, the whole of every Saturday shall be a legal holiday,
25 and in the parishes of Catahoula, Caldwell, West Carroll, Concordia, East Carroll,

1 Franklin, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, Jackson,
 2 Avoyelles, West Feliciana, Rapides, Natchitoches, Grant, LaSalle, Winn, Lincoln,
 3 and East Baton Rouge, the whole of every Saturday shall be a holiday for all banking
 4 institutions, and in the parishes of Sabine and Vernon each Wednesday and Saturday,
 5 from 12:00 o'clock noon until 12:00 o'clock midnight, shall be a half-holiday for all
 6 banking institutions. All banks and trust companies, however, may, each at its
 7 option, remain open and exercise all of its regular banking functions and duties upon
 8 January 8; Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday; January 19; Washington's
 9 Birthday; ~~Presidents' Day~~; Good Friday; National Memorial Day; June 3; August 30;
 10 Christopher Columbus Day; November 1; and Veterans' Day; and all banks and trust
 11 companies located in Ward 1 of the parish of Avoyelles may, each at its option,
 12 remain open and exercise all of its regular banking functions and duties until 12
 13 o'clock noon on Saturdays; however, when on any of said last named days any bank
 14 or trust company does actually remain open it shall, as to transactions on such day,
 15 to exactly the same extent as if such day were not otherwise a legal holiday, be not
 16 subject to ~~any of the provisions of R.S. 7:85 and 251~~ or any other laws of Louisiana
 17 covering the matters of maturity of negotiable instruments and demand, notice,
 18 presentment, acceptance, or protest thereof on legal holidays and half-holidays, and
 19 all instruments payable to or at such bank upon such day shall become due on such
 20 day; and provided, further, that the option of remaining open shall not, except as
 21 otherwise provided in this Paragraph, apply to Saturdays or Wednesdays which are
 22 holidays or half-holidays, or to Mardi Gras when the same has been declared a legal
 23 holiday; and provided still further that nothing in any law of this state shall in any
 24 manner whatsoever affect the validity of or render void or voidable the payment,
 25 certification, or acceptance of a check or other negotiable instrument or any other
 26 transaction by a bank in Louisiana because done on any holiday or half-holiday or
 27 because done on any day upon which such bank, if remaining open because of the
 28 option given it in this Paragraph, if the payment, certification, acceptance, or other
 29 transaction could have been validly done on any other day.

* * *

1 subject to ~~any of the provisions of R.S. 7:85 and 251,~~ or any other laws of Louisiana,
 2 covering the matters of maturity of negotiable instruments and demands, notice,
 3 presentment, acceptance, or protest thereof on legal holidays and half-holidays, and
 4 all instruments payable to or at such bank upon such day shall become due on such
 5 day; and provided further that the option of remaining open shall not apply to
 6 Saturdays or Wednesdays which are holidays or half-holidays, or to Mardi Gras
 7 when the same has been declared a legal holiday; and provided further that nothing
 8 in any law of this state shall in any manner whatsoever affect the validity of, or
 9 render void or voidable, the payment, certification of acceptance of a check or other
 10 negotiable instrument, or any other transaction by a bank in Louisiana because done
 11 on any holiday or half-holiday or because done on any day upon which such
 12 financial institution if remaining open because of the option given it in this
 13 Subsection, if the payment, certification, acceptance, or other transaction could have
 14 been validly done on any other day, provided, however, that in the parishes of
 15 Beauregard, Sabine, Vernon, Evangeline, and DeSoto, the banking institutions may
 16 elect to make the whole of Saturdays holidays and close, in lieu of half-holidays on
 17 Wednesdays and half-holidays on Saturdays.

18 E.(1)(a)(i) Each clerk of a district court, parish court, and city court shall
 19 close his office on the following days: New Year's Day, January first; Washington's
 20 Birthday ~~and Presidents' Day,~~ the third Monday in February; Good Friday; Memorial
 21 Day, the last Monday in May; the Fourth of July; Labor Day, the first Monday in
 22 September; All Saints' Day, November first; Veterans' Day, November eleventh;
 23 Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November, and the next day, Friday;
 24 Christmas Eve Day; Christmas Day; and New Year's Eve Day, December thirty-first.

25 * * *

26 §58.10. Battle of New Orleans Day

27 A. A day shall be designated to commemorate the stunning victory by
 28 American forces consisting of United States army regulars, marines, and sailors, area
 29 militia, and Battalions of Free Men of Color, Baratarian privateers, Attakapas
 30 Dragoons, volunteers from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Mississippi (Hinds' Dragoons),

1 Choctaws, and individuals who were formerly Spanish subjects and French citizens
 2 who fought for their new country under the command of Major General Andrew
 3 Jackson against the invading British forces on the plains of Chalmette in the last
 4 major military engagement between the United States and Great Britain in the War
 5 of 1812.

6 B. The eighth day of January is hereby designated as the Battle of New
 7 Orleans Day throughout the state of Louisiana to honor those who served in this
 8 historic battle. The governor or local governing authorities may declare the Battle
 9 of New Orleans Day a holiday. If the holiday is declared, the office of the secretary
 10 of state, clerk of court, and registrar of voters shall remain open if the functions and
 11 duties of the office related to an election are required as determined by the
 12 commissioner of elections.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____