

**First Regular Session
Seventy-second General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 19-0893.01 Megan Waples x4348

HOUSE BILL 19-1185

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Benavidez,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Gonzales,

House Committees

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW STATE HOLIDAY IN PLACE**
102 **OF COLUMBUS DAY.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill establishes Colorado day as a state legal holiday in place of Columbus day.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 **SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly
2 hereby finds and declares that:

3 (a) State holidays are intended to honor prominent figures in
4 United States history and acknowledge other civic events and
5 celebrations, and not to honor individual communities or heritages;

6 (b) Colorado day was established by the general assembly to
7 commemorate the anniversary of the admission of the state of Colorado
8 into the United States of America and should be celebrated as a legal state
9 holiday; and

10 (c) Replacing Columbus day as a state holiday does not take away
11 from the recognition of the Italian-American community and its
12 contributions to the state.

13 (2) Therefore, in order to preserve the number of state holidays
14 while commemorating Colorado's history, the general assembly hereby
15 replaces Columbus day with Colorado day as a legal state holiday.

16 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-11-101, **amend**
17 (1) as follows:

18 **24-11-101. Legal holidays - effect.** (1) The following days, viz:
19 The first day of January, commonly called New Year's day; the third
20 Monday in January, which shall be observed as the birthday of Dr. Martin
21 Luther King, Jr.; the third Monday in February, commonly called
22 Washington-Lincoln day; the last Monday in May, commonly called
23 Memorial day; the fourth day of July, commonly called Independence
24 day; THE FIRST MONDAY IN AUGUST, WHICH SHALL BE OBSERVED AS
25 COLORADO DAY; the first Monday in September, commonly called Labor
26 day; ~~the second Monday in October, commonly called Columbus day;~~ the
27 eleventh day of November, commonly called Veterans' day; the fourth

1 Thursday in November, commonly called Thanksgiving day; the
2 twenty-fifth day of December, commonly called Christmas day; and any
3 day appointed or recommended by the governor of this state or the
4 president of the United States as a day of fasting or prayer or
5 thanksgiving, are hereby declared to be legal holidays and shall, for all
6 purposes whatsoever, as regards the presenting for payment or acceptance
7 and the protesting and giving notice of the dishonor of bills of exchange,
8 drafts, bank checks, promissory notes, or other negotiable instruments and
9 also for the holding of courts, be treated and considered as is the first day
10 of the week commonly called Sunday.

11 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 5-1-301, **amend** (6)
12 as follows:

13 **5-1-301. General definitions.** In addition to definitions appearing
14 in subsequent articles, as used in this code, unless the context otherwise
15 requires:

16 (6) "Business day" means any calendar day except Sunday, New
17 Year's day, the third Monday in January observed as the birthday of Dr.
18 Martin Luther King, Jr., Washington-Lincoln day, Memorial day,
19 Independence day, COLORADO DAY, Labor day, ~~Columbus day~~, Veterans'
20 day, Thanksgiving day, and Christmas day.

21 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 6-1-102, **amend** (2.5)
22 as follows:

23 **6-1-102. Definitions.** As used in this article 1, unless the context
24 otherwise requires:

25 (2.5) "Business day" means any calendar day except Sunday, New
26 Year's day, the third Monday in January observed as the birthday of Dr.
27 Martin Luther King, Jr., Washington-Lincoln day, Memorial day,

1 Independence day, COLORADO DAY, Labor day, ~~Columbus day~~, Veterans'
2 day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

3 **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August
6 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a
7 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the
8 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act
9 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect
10 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
11 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
12 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.