

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2482 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY COOPER, KAUFER, VENKAT, PROBST, McNEILL, BRENNAN,
MARCELL, GUENST, SOLOMON, ROWE, LEADBETER, HADDOCK, MENTZER,
PICKETT, KHAN, OTTEN, DALEY, GREEN AND FLEMING, JULY 2, 2024

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JULY 2, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 38 (Holidays and Observances) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for religious observances.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Title 38 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
6 Statutes is amended by adding a part to read:

7 PART III

8 RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES

9 CHAPTER 21

10 PASSOVER AND YOM KIPPUR

11 Sec.

12 2101. Legislative findings.

13 2102. Designation.

14 § 2101. Legislative findings.

15 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

16 (1) Passover is widely celebrated as one of the most
17 sacred holidays of Judaism.

1 (2) Passover commemorates the freedom of the Israelites
2 from slavery.

3 (3) Yom Kippur, the day of atonement, is considered the
4 holiest day of the Jewish calendar.

5 (4) Yom Kippur is set aside as a day of prayer, fasting,
6 introspection and repentance.

7 (5) More than 400,000 Pennsylvanians are among those in
8 the worldwide Jewish population who observe Passover and the
9 holy day of Yom Kippur.

10 § 2102. Designation.

11 In accordance with longstanding Jewish tradition, the
12 following days shall be observed by the Commonwealth:

13 (1) The 15th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan shall be
14 recognized as the First Day of Passover.

15 (2) Ten days after Rosh Hashanah, the 10th day of
16 Tishri, shall be recognized as Yom Kippur.

17 Section 2. Nothing in this act shall be construed to require
18 an employer or the Commonwealth to consider Passover or Yom
19 Kippur as a legal holiday or to provide paid leave to an
20 employee solely on the basis of the dates designated in this
21 act.

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.