

**2025 -- H 5250 SUBSTITUTE A**

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LC000886/SUB A  
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**STATE OF RHODE ISLAND**

**IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025**

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- HOLIDAY BUSINESS

Introduced By: Representatives Biah, DeSimone, Hull, Abney, Sanchez, Cruz, Morales,  
Giraldo, and Kislak

Date Introduced: January 31, 2025

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 5-23-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-23 entitled "Holiday  
2 Business" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **5-23-1. Definitions.**

4           (a) "Holiday," whenever used in this chapter includes: New Year's Day, Memorial Day,  
5 [Juneteenth National Freedom Day](#), Fourth of July, Victory Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day,  
6 Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day (but only in those years that the governor by public proclamation  
7 designates it as a legal holiday), and Christmas, or on any day that any enumerated holiday is  
8 officially celebrated.

9           (b) "Retail establishment," whenever used in this chapter, includes any business making  
10 sales at retail in this state, but this definition does not include victualing houses principally serving  
11 prepared food for consumption on and off the premises, including those houses licensed under  
12 chapter 24 of this title.

13           (c) "Town council," whenever used in this chapter, includes "city council" except in the  
14 city of Providence where it means "bureau of licenses" and any duly constituted licensing authority  
15 existing in any other city or town.

16           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2026.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

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RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- HOLIDAY BUSINESS

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1           This act would add Juneteenth National Freedom Day to the definition of "holidays" to the  
2 chapter governing retail business.

3           This act would take effect on January 1, 2026.

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