



## 96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

### 2009 and 2010

#### HB0017

Introduced 1/14/2009, by Rep. Mary E. Flowers

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

105 ILCS 5/24-2	from Ch. 122, par. 24-2
105 ILCS 5/27-20.4	from Ch. 122, par. 27-20.4
30 ILCS 805/8.33 new	

Amends the School Code. Adds as commemorative holidays January 15 (to be known as Humanitarian Day and observed as a day of respect for the principles of human and civil rights and to involve the use of the color white as a visual affirmation to practice these principles), April 4 (to be known as Victims of Violence Wholly Day and observed as a day of respect for the principles of non-violence and to involve the use of the color black as a visual affirmation to practice these principles), and August 28 (to be known as Dream Day and observed as a day of respect for the spiritual and moral principles of peoplehood and to involve the use of the colors black and white as a visual affirmation to practice these principles). Requires the study of Black History to include the Gettysburg Address, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have a Dream Speech", and President Barack Obama's victory speech. Amends the State Mandates Act to require implementation without reimbursement.

LRB096 02974 NHT 12988 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

STATE MANDATES  
ACT MAY REQUIRE  
REIMBURSEMENT

1 AN ACT concerning education.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by changing Sections  
5 24-2 and 27-20.4 as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/24-2) (from Ch. 122, par. 24-2)

7 Sec. 24-2. Holidays. Teachers shall not be required to  
8 teach on Saturdays; nor shall teachers or other school  
9 employees, other than noncertificated school employees whose  
10 presence is necessary because of an emergency or for the  
11 continued operation and maintenance of school facilities or  
12 property, be required to work on legal school holidays, which  
13 are January 1, New Year's Day; the third Monday in January, the  
14 Birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; February 12, the  
15 Birthday of President Abraham Lincoln; the first Monday in  
16 March (to be known as Casimir Pulaski's birthday); Good Friday;  
17 the day designated as Memorial Day by federal law; July 4,  
18 Independence Day; the first Monday in September, Labor Day; the  
19 second Monday in October, Columbus Day; November 11, Veteran's  
20 Day; the Thursday in November commonly called Thanksgiving Day;  
21 and December 25, Christmas Day. School boards may grant special  
22 holidays whenever in their judgment such action is advisable.  
23 No deduction shall be made from the time or compensation of a

1 school employee on account of any legal or special holiday.

2 Commemorative holidays, which recognize specified  
3 patriotic, civic, cultural or historical persons, activities,  
4 or events, are regular school days. Commemorative holidays are:  
5 January 15 (to be known as Humanitarian Day and observed as a  
6 day of respect for the principles of human and civil rights and  
7 to involve the use of the color white as a visual affirmation  
8 to practice these principles), January 28 (to be known as  
9 Christa McAuliffe Day and observed as a commemoration of space  
10 exploration), February 15 (the birthday of Susan B. Anthony),  
11 March 29 (Viet Nam War Veterans Day), April 4 (to be known as  
12 Victims of Violence Wholly Day and observed as a day of respect  
13 for the principles of non-violence and to involve the use of  
14 the color black as a visual affirmation to practice these  
15 principles), August 28 (to be known as Dream Day and observed  
16 as a day of respect for the spiritual and moral principles of  
17 peoplehood and to involve the use of the colors black and white  
18 as a visual affirmation to practice these principles),  
19 September 11 (September 11th Day of Remembrance), the school  
20 day immediately preceding Veteran's Day (Korean War Veterans  
21 Day), October 1 (Recycling Day), December 7 (Pearl Harbor  
22 Veterans Day) and any day so appointed by the President or  
23 Governor. School boards may establish commemorative holidays  
24 whenever in their judgment such action is advisable. School  
25 boards shall include instruction relative to commemorated  
26 persons, activities, or events on the commemorative holiday or

1 at any other time during the school year and at any point in  
2 the curriculum when such instruction may be deemed appropriate.  
3 The State Board of Education shall prepare and make available  
4 to school boards instructional materials relative to  
5 commemorated persons, activities, or events which may be used  
6 by school boards in conjunction with any instruction provided  
7 pursuant to this paragraph.

8 City of Chicago School District 299 shall observe March 4  
9 of each year as a commemorative holiday. This holiday shall be  
10 known as Mayors' Day which shall be a day to commemorate and be  
11 reminded of the past Chief Executive Officers of the City of  
12 Chicago, and in particular the late Mayor Richard J. Daley and  
13 the late Mayor Harold Washington. If March 4 falls on a  
14 Saturday or Sunday, Mayors' Day shall be observed on the  
15 following Monday.

16 (Source: P.A. 95-699, eff. 11-9-07.)

17 (105 ILCS 5/27-20.4) (from Ch. 122, par. 27-20.4)

18 Sec. 27-20.4. Black History Study. Every public elementary  
19 school and high school shall include in its curriculum a unit  
20 of instruction studying the events of Black History, including  
21 (i) the history of the African slave trade, slavery in America,  
22 and the vestiges of slavery in this country and (ii) the  
23 Gettysburg Address, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I Have  
24 a Dream Speech" of August 28, 1963, and President Barack  
25 Obama's victory speech of November 4, 2008. These events shall

1 include not only the contributions made by individual  
2 African-Americans in government and in the arts, humanities and  
3 sciences to the economic, cultural and political development of  
4 the United States and Africa, but also the socio-economic  
5 struggle which African-Americans experienced collectively in  
6 striving to achieve fair and equal treatment under the laws of  
7 this nation. The studying of this material shall constitute an  
8 affirmation by students of their commitment to respect the  
9 dignity of all races and peoples and to forever eschew every  
10 form of discrimination in their lives and careers.

11 The State Superintendent of Education may prepare and make  
12 available to all school boards instructional materials,  
13 including those established by the Amistad Commission, which  
14 may be used as guidelines for development of a unit of  
15 instruction under this Section; provided, however, that each  
16 school board shall itself determine the minimum amount of  
17 instruction time which shall qualify as a unit of instruction  
18 satisfying the requirements of this Section.

19 (Source: P.A. 94-285, eff. 7-21-05.)

20 Section 90. The State Mandates Act is amended by adding  
21 Section 8.33 as follows:

22 (30 ILCS 805/8.33 new)

23 Sec. 8.33. Exempt mandate. Notwithstanding Sections 6 and 8  
24 of this Act, no reimbursement by the State is required for the

1 implementation of any mandate created by this amendatory Act of  
2 the 96th General Assembly.