

Submitter: Thomas Busse  
On Behalf Of:  
Committee: House Committee On Rules  
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3595

I am a former state worker.

The problem with this bill is it reflects a tendency of legislators to appease their special interest support base in order to tout a list of accomplishments. Over time, the state's list of holidays becomes cluttered and it becomes difficult to take them back and optimize the holiday schedule. The Jewish community may want Yom Kippur, the Gay community might want Harvey Milk's birthday, The Muslim Community may want Eid-al-Fitr, etc. This is not good government.

A far better approach common in the private sector would be to designate two floating holidays that state workers can use to satisfy their religious and cultural needs.

Oregon Holidays are currently set by the Dept. of Administrative Services via administrative rulemaking; specifically, State HR Policy 60.010.01. As such, legislating this policy is unnecessary. The governor already has the authority to set holidays.