

CHAPTER 683
LEGAL HOLIDAYS; SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

683.01 Legal Holidays.

- (1) The legal holidays, which are also public holidays, are the following:
- (a) Sunday, the first day of each week.
 - (b) New Year's Day, January 1.
 - (c) Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., January 15.
 - (d) Birthday of Robert E. Lee, January 19.
 - (e) Lincoln's Birthday, February 12.
 - (f) Susan B. Anthony's Birthday, February 15.
 - (g) Washington's Birthday, the third Monday in February.
 - (h) Good Friday.
 - (i) Pascua Florida Day, April 2.
 - (j) Confederate Memorial Day, April 26.
 - (k) Memorial Day, the last Monday in May.
 - (l) Birthday of Jefferson Davis, June 3.
 - (m) Flag Day, June 14.
 - (n) Independence Day, July 4.
 - (o) Labor Day, the first Monday in September.
 - (p) Columbus Day and Farmers' Day, the second Monday in October.
 - (q) Veterans' Day, November 11.
 - (r) General Election Day.
 - (s) Thanksgiving Day, the fourth Thursday in November.
 - (t) Christmas Day, December 25.
 - (u) Shrove Tuesday, sometimes also known as "Mardi Gras", in counties where carnival associations are organized for the purpose of celebrating the same.
- (2) Whenever any legal holiday shall fall upon a Sunday, the Monday next following shall be deemed a public holiday for all and any of the purposes aforesaid.

683.02 Meaning of term "legal holidays" as used in contracts.

Whenever, in contracts to be performed in the state, reference is made to "legal holidays", the term shall be understood to include those holidays designated in s. 683.01 and such others as may be designated by law.

683.04 Arbor Day.

The third Friday in January of each year is hereby designated as "Arbor Day" in the state.

683.05 Pan-American Day.

- (1) The Governor shall proclaim April 14 of each year to be "Pan-American Day", which day shall be suitable observed in the public schools of the state as a day honoring the republics of Latin America, and which day shall otherwise be suitably observed by such public exercises in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor may designate. If April 14 shall fall on a day which is not a school day, "Pan American Day" shall be observed in the schools on the school day next preceding or on such preceding day as may be designated by local school authorities.
- (2) The purpose of the law is to establish a day on which the mutually friendly relationship between the state and the Pan-American Republics will be recognized and perpetuated.

683.06 Pascua Florida Day.

- (1) April 2 of each year is hereby designated as "Florida State Day". The day to be known as "Pascua Florida Day."
- (2) The Governor may annually issue a proclamation designating April 2 as said State Day and designating the week of Mary 27 to April 2 as "Pascua Florida Week" and calling upon public schools and citizens of Florida to observe the same as a patriotic occasion.

683.08 Gasparilla Day, legal holiday in Hillsborough County.

The day known and designated as “Gasparilla Day” in Hillsborough County shall be a legal holiday within said county, and all city, county, and state offices, and banking institutions may remain closed on Gasparilla Day.

683.09 DeSoto Day, legal holiday in Manatee County.

The last Friday of DeSoto Week every year shall be known as “DeSoto Day” and shall be a legal holiday in Manatee County, and all city, county, and state offices and banking institutions may remain closed on DeSoto Day.

683.10 Grandmother’s Day.

- (1) The second Sunday of October of each year is designated “Grandmother Day”.
- (2) The Governor may issue annually a proclamation designating the second Sunday of October as Grandmother’s Day and calling upon public schools and citizens of the state to observe the occasion.

683.11 Law Enforcement Appreciation Month.

- (1) The month of May of each year is hereby designated “Law Enforcement Appreciation Month”.
- (2) The Governor and the mayor of each municipality may issue annually a proclamation designating the month of May as “Law Enforcement Appreciation Month” and urging all civic, fraternal, and religious organizations and public and private educational institutions to recognize and observe this occasion through appropriate programs, meetings, services, or celebrations in which state, county, and local law enforcement officers are invited to participate.

683.115 Law Enforcement Memorial Day.

- (1) May 15 of each year is hereby designated as “Law Enforcement Memorial Day.”
- (2) The Governor may issue annually a proclamation declaring May 15 to be a day of mourning throughout the state.

683.12 Parade Day. Hillsborough County.

The day known and designated as “Parade Day” of the Hillsborough County Fair and Plant City Strawberry Festival in Hillsborough County shall be a legal holiday within said county, and all city and county offices and banking institutions may remain closed on Parade Day of the Hillsborough County Fair and Plant City Strawberry Festival.

683.13 State observance of national day of mourning.

Observance by the state of any day of mourning, as proclaimed by the Governor in response to the designation of a national day of mourning by the President of the United States, may be by declaring that the following Sunday shall be observed as the day of mourning.

683.14 Patriots’ Day.

Patriots’ Day is hereby recognized by the Florida Legislature as one of great historical significance. Public officials, schools, private organizations, and all citizens are encouraged to commemorate Patriots’ Day on April 19 of year.

683.145 I am an American Day.

The third Sunday in October of each year is hereby designated as “I Am An American Day.”

683.15 Teacher’s Day.

- (1) The third Friday in May of each year is designated as Teacher’s Day.
- (2) The Governor may issue annually a proclamation designating the third Friday in May as Teacher’s Day and calling upon public schools and citizens of the state to observe the occasion.

683.16 Retires Teachers’ Day.

- (1) The Sunday commencing the third week of November of each year is hereby designated as “Retired Teachers’ Day.”

(2) The Governor may issue annually a proclamation designating the Sunday commencing the third week of November of each year as Retired Teachers' Day and calling upon public schools and citizens of the state to observe the occasion and to take the opportunity to honor the retired teachers of the state.

683.17 Children's Day.

The second Tuesday in April of each year is designated as Children's Day. On this day public officials, schools, private organizations, and all citizens are encouraged both to acknowledge Florida's children as the resource giving it the greatest hope of future excellence and to reaffirm their commitment to help Florida's children develop their qualities, strengths, and potential, resulting in greater productive capacity and enlightened citizenship.

683.18 Save the Florida Panther Day.

(1) The third Sunday of March of each year is designated as "Save the Florida Panther Day."

(2) The Governor may issue annually a proclamation designating the third Sunday of March as Save the Florida Panther Day and calling upon public schools and citizens of the state to observe the occasion.

683.19 Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Good Friday; designation as legal holiday by chief circuit judges.

The chief judge of any judicial circuit is authorized to designate Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Good Friday as legal holidays for the courts within the judicial circuit. If the holidays are so designated, the courts in the judicial circuit may remain closed on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Good Friday and those days will be holidays for persons employed by the courts.

683.21 Juneteenth Day.

(1) June 19th of each year is hereby designated "Juneteenth Day" to commemorate the traditional observance of the day the slaves in Florida were notified of the Emancipation Proclamation.

(2) The Governor may issue annually a proclamation designating June 19th as Juneteenth Day and calling on public officials, schools, private organizations, and all citizens to honor the historic significance of the day.