



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 412**

February Session, 2024

Substitute House Bill No. 5409

*House of Representatives, April 10, 2024*

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through REP. BLUMENTHAL of the 147th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT DESIGNATING VARIOUS DAYS, WEEKS AND MONTHS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivisions (113) and (114) of subsection (a) of section 10-  
2 29a of the 2024 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the  
3 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

4 (113) The Governor shall proclaim September fourteenth of each year  
5 to be Free Enterprise Day, to recognize the innovative spirit of  
6 entrepreneurs and the contributions that [free enterprise has] they have  
7 made to the state's economy. Suitable exercises may be held in the State  
8 Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of  
9 the day.

10 (114) The Governor shall proclaim September seventeenth of each  
11 year to be Constitution Day, to commemorate the formation and signing  
12 of the United States Constitution, and to recognize Connecticut as  
13 having the first written constitution of a democratic government.

14 Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the  
15 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

16 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 10-29a of the 2024 supplement to the  
17 general statutes is amended by adding subdivisions (118) to (124),  
18 inclusive, as follows (*Effective from passage*):

19 (NEW) (118) The Governor shall proclaim April eleventh of each year  
20 as Parkinson's Awareness Day, to raise awareness of the neurological  
21 condition of Parkinson's disease and available treatments for it. Suitable  
22 exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the  
23 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

24 (NEW) (119) The Governor shall proclaim April twenty-sixth of each  
25 year as Tuskegee Airmen Day, to recognize the significant contribution  
26 of the first African American military fighter pilots in American history  
27 who served during World War II, and whose impressive performance  
28 earned them more than one hundred fifty Distinguished Flying Crosses.  
29 Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the  
30 Governor designates for the observance of the day.

31 (NEW) (120) The Governor shall proclaim May fifth of each year as  
32 Red Dress Day, to commemorate missing or murdered indigenous  
33 persons. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and  
34 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the day.

35 (NEW) (121) The Governor shall proclaim May thirteenth to May  
36 nineteenth of each year as Face Equity Week, and May nineteenth of  
37 each year as Face Equity Day, to recognize those with craniofacial  
38 abnormalities. Suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and  
39 elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of the week  
40 and day.

41 (NEW) (122) The Governor shall proclaim June first of each year as  
42 Barber Recognition Day, to honor barbers in the state. Suitable exercises  
43 may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor  
44 designates for the observance of the day.

45 (NEW) (123) The Governor shall proclaim September fifteenth of each  
 46 year as Dystonia Awareness Day, to raise awareness of the movement  
 47 disorder of dystonia that causes muscles to contract involuntarily and  
 48 available treatments for it. Suitable exercises may be held in the State  
 49 Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor designates for the observance of  
 50 the day.

51 (NEW) (124) The Governor shall proclaim the month of November of  
 52 each year as Epilepsy Awareness Month, to raise awareness of this  
 53 neurological disease and available treatments for it. Suitable exercises  
 54 may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the Governor  
 55 designates for the observance of the month.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	10-29a(a)(113) and (114)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	10-29a(a)(118) to (124)

**GAE**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*

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*The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.*

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**OFA Fiscal Note**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

The bill requires the Governor to designate various days weeks and months to commemorate and celebrate, resulting in no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities.

**The Out Years**

**State Impact:** None

**Municipal Impact:** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****sHB 5409*****AN ACT DESIGNATING VARIOUS DAYS, WEEKS AND MONTHS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires the governor to proclaim the following:

1. April 11 of each year as Parkinson's Awareness Day, to raise awareness of the neurological condition of Parkinson's disease and available treatments for it;
2. April 26 of each year as Tuskegee Airmen Day, to recognize the significant contributions of the first African American military fighter pilots in American history who served during World War II, and whose impressive performance earned them more than 150 Distinguished Flying Crosses;
3. May 5 of each year as Red Dress Day, to commemorate missing or murdered indigenous people;
4. May 13 to May 19 of each year as Face Equity Week, and May 19 of each year as Face Equity Day, to recognize those with craniofacial abnormalities;
5. June 1 of each year as Barber Recognition Day, to honor barbers in the state;
6. September 15 of each year as Dystonia Awareness Day, to raise awareness of the movement disorder of dystonia that causes muscles to contract involuntarily and available treatments for it; and
7. November of each year as Epilepsy Awareness Month, to raise awareness of the neurological disease and available treatments

for it.

Under the bill, suitable exercises may be held in the State Capitol and elsewhere as the governor designates.

The bill also amends two previous designations as follows:

1. Free Enterprise Day (September 14), to recognize the innovative spirit of entrepreneurs and the contributions they have made to the state's economy, instead of recognizing the contributions of free enterprise and
2. Constitution Day (September 17), to also recognize Connecticut as having the first written constitution of a democratic government.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/22/2024)