

- SUBJECT:** Designating Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha as optional holidays
- COMMITTEE:** State Affairs — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 9 ayes — Paddie, Deshotel, Harless, Howard, Hunter, Lucio, Metcalf, Raymond, Shaheen
- 2 nays — P. King, Slawson
- 2 absent — Hernandez, Smithee
- WITNESSES:** For — Insiya Aziz, Emgage Action; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Saatvik Ahluwalia, Austin Asian Civic Communities Coalition; Chloe Goodman, Workers Defense Action Fund; Ash Hall)
- Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** Government Code ch. 662, subch. A governs holidays for state employees. Under sec. 662.006, state employees are entitled to a paid day off from working for a state agency on an optional holiday if the holiday does not fall on a Saturday or a Sunday and the employee agrees to give up, during the same fiscal year, a state holiday that does not fall on a Saturday or Sunday and that state agencies are not prohibited from observing.
- Sec. 662.003 lists the national, state, and optional holidays for state employees. Optional holidays include the days on which Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Good Friday fall.
- DIGEST:** HB 1231 would include Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha among the optional holidays for which state employees would be entitled to a paid day off from working under Government Code ch. 662.
- The bill would take effect September 1, 2021.