

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR PROCLAMATION NUMBER 41 JML 2024

## LEGAL STATE HOLIDAY – JULY 5, 2024

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, telling the world that our country would be independent on that day and forevermore;

WHEREAS, July 4, 1776 marked a new day for not only our nation, but for the whole world, as our new democracy began;

WHEREAS, our nation's Founding Fathers immortalized our nation's principles in the Declaration of Independence, declaring to the world, "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness";

WHEREAS, our country holds these words dear to this day, as the guiding text of all the rights we so cherish;

WHEREAS, all Americans should honor the celebration of Independence Day, in recognition of the many rights which have been given to us by our Creator;

WHEREAS, the citizens of our state should celebrate this day, and every day, enjoying the liberties we have as Americans, which have been fought for by our forefathers and continue to be fought for today;

**WHEREAS,** Louisiana law recognized the legal, historical, and cultural significance of this holiday, pursuant to R.S. 1:55(A)(1) and (B)(1)(a), Independence Day, Thursday, July 4, 2024, is a legal holiday and a day of public rest in the State of Louisiana which is observed by the departments of the State;

**WHEREAS,** R.S. 1:55(B)(3) empowers the Governor to authorize, by Executive Proclamation, the observance by the departments of the State of other holidays and half-holidays that the Governor deems in keeping with efficient administration; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the State of Louisiana are encouraged to honor, remember, and celebrate our country's independence.

**NOW THEREFORE I, JEFF LANDRY,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

Section 1: Thursday, July 4, 2024 is a legal holiday. Friday, July 5, 2024, is declared a legal holiday in the State of Louisiana and shall be observed as a day of public rest.

<u>Section 2:</u> Insofar as practicable, the appointing authorities and/or heads of all institutions, offices and departments of the State (hereafter "appointing authority") shall permit the officers and employees under their control to observe Thursday, July 4 and Friday, July 5, 2024, as days of public rest. Nonetheless, an appointing authority shall have discretion to require officers or employees to work on the holiday when, in the appointing authority's judgment, it is required for the efficient administration of a State facility, the operation of which is necessary and indispensable to the citizens of this State.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge on this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024.

Jeff Landry GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

andri Nancy Landry SECRETARY OF STATE