1	**STATE COMMEMORATIVE PERIODS AMENDMENTS**
2	2023 GENERAL SESSION
3	STATE OF UTAH
4	**Chief Sponsor: Norman K Thurston**
5	Senate Sponsor: Daniel McCay

6

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **Committee Note:**

9   The Government Operations Interim Committee recommended this bill.

10   Legislative Vote: 12 voting for   1 voting against   1 absent

11 **General Description:**

12   This bill modifies provisions related to commemorative periods.

13 **Highlighted Provisions:**

14   This bill:

15   ▸ defines terms;

16   ▸ provides for the establishment of commemorative periods by the governor; and

17   ▸ requires the governor's office to maintain a list of commemorative periods.

18 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

19   None

20 **Other Special Clauses:**

21   None

22 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

23 AMENDS:

24   **63G-1-401**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 14

25

26 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

27   Section 1. Section **63G-1-401** is amended to read:

H.B. 75

28   **63G-1-401. Commemorative periods.**

29   (1) As used in this section, "commemorative period" means a special observance

30 declared by the governor that annually recognizes and honors a culturally or historically

31 significant day, week, month, or other time period in the state.

32   (2) (a) The governor may declare a commemorative period by issuing a declaration.

33   (b) The governor shall maintain a list of all commemorative periods declared by the

34 governor.

35   (3) (a) The governor's declaration of a commemorative period expires the year

36 immediately following the day on which the governor issues the declaration.

37   (b) Subsection (3)(a) does not prevent the governor from redeclaring a commemorative

38 period before or after the commemorative period expires.

39   [(1)] (4) [The] Notwithstanding Subsections (2) and (3), the following days shall be

40 commemorated annually:

41   (a) Utah History Day at the Capitol, on the Friday immediately following the fourth

42 Monday in January, to encourage citizens of the state, including students, to participate in

43 activities that recognize Utah's history;

44   (b) Day of Remembrance for Incarceration of Japanese Americans, on February 19, in

45 remembrance of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II;

46   (c) Utah State Flag Day, on March 9;

47   (d) Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day, on March 29;

48   (e) Utah Railroad Workers Day, on May 10;

49   (f) Dandy-Walker Syndrome Awareness Day, on May 11;

50   (g) Armed Forces Day, on the third Saturday in May, in honor of men and women who

51 are serving or have served in the United States Armed Forces around the world in defense of

52 freedom;

53   Ĥ→ [(h) Juneteenth Freedom Day, on the third Saturday in June, in honor of Union General

54 Gordon Granger proclaiming the freedom of all slaves on June 19, 1865, in Galveston, Texas;

55 ———— (i)] (h) ←Ĥ Arthrogryposis Multiplex Congenita Awareness Day, on June 30;

56   Ĥ→ [(j)] (i) ←Ĥ Navajo Code Talker Day, on August 14;

57   Ĥ→ [(k)] (j) ←Ĥ Rachael Runyan/Missing and Exploited Children's Day, on August 26, the

58 anniversary of the day three-year-old Rachael Runyan was kidnaped from a playground in

59   Sunset, Utah, to:

60   (i) encourage individuals to make child safety a priority;

61   (ii) remember the importance of continued efforts to reunite missing children with their

62   families; and

63   (iii) honor Rachael Runyan and all Utah children who have been abducted or exploited;

64   Ĥ→ [(l)] (k) ←Ĥ Constitution Day, on September 17;

65   Ĥ→ [(m)] (l) ←Ĥ POW/MIA Recognition Day, on the third Friday in September;

66   Ĥ→ [(n)] (m) ←Ĥ Victims of Communism Memorial Day, on November 7;

67   Ĥ→ [(o)] (n) ←Ĥ Indigenous People Day, on the Monday immediately preceding

67a   Thanksgiving; and

68   Ĥ→ [(p)] (o) ←Ĥ Bill of Rights Day, on December 15.

69   [(2)] (5) The Department of Veterans and Military Affairs shall coordinate activities,

70   special programs, and promotional information to heighten public awareness and involvement

71   relating to Subsections [(1)(g)] (4)(g) and (m).

72   [(3)] (6) The month of April shall be commemorated annually as Clean Out the

73   Medicine Cabinet Month to:

74   (a) recognize the urgent need to make Utah homes and neighborhoods safe from

75   prescription medication abuse and poisonings by the proper home storage and disposal of

76   prescription and over-the-counter medications; and

77   (b) educate citizens about the permanent medication disposal sites in Utah listed on

78   useonlyasdirected.org that allow disposal throughout the year.

79   [(4)] (7) The second full week of April shall be commemorated annually as Animal

80   Care and Control Appreciation Week to recognize and increase awareness within the

81   community of the services that animal care and control professionals provide.

82   [(5)] (8) The first full week of May shall be commemorated annually as State Water

83   Week to recognize the importance of water conservation, quality, and supply in the state.

84   [(6)] (9) The third full week of June shall be commemorated annually as Workplace

85   Safety Week to heighten public awareness regarding the importance of safety in the workplace.

86   [(7)] (10) The second Friday and Saturday in August shall be commemorated annually

87   as Utah Fallen Heroes Days to:

88   (a) honor fallen heroes who, during service in the military or public safety, have

89   sacrificed their lives to protect the country and the citizens of the state; and

90   (b) encourage political subdivisions to acknowledge and honor fallen heroes.

91   [(8)] (11) The third full week in August shall be commemorated annually as Drowsy

92   Driving Awareness Week to:

93   (a) educate the public about the relationship between fatigue and driving performance;

94   and

95   (b) encourage the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation to

96   recognize and promote educational efforts on the dangers of drowsy driving.

97   [(9)] (12) The third full week of September shall be commemorated annually as Gang

98   Prevention Awareness Week.

99   [(10)] (13) The month of October shall be commemorated annually as Italian-American

100 Heritage Month.

101   [(11)] (14) The month of November shall be commemorated annually as American

102 Indian Heritage Month.

103   [(12)] (15) The first full week of December shall be commemorated annually as

104 Avalanche Awareness Week to:

105   (a) educate the public about avalanche awareness and safety;

106   (b) encourage collaborative efforts to decrease annual avalanche accidents and

107 fatalities; and

108   (c) honor Utah residents who have lost their lives in avalanches, including those who

109 lost their lives working to prevent avalanches.