

House Economic Development and Workforce Services Committee

1/30/2026

Bill: 1st substitute HB 309 – Juneteenth Observance Amendments

Sponsor: Representative Hollins

Floor Sponsor:

UASD Position: Support

This Bill modifies the day on which Juneteenth National Freedom Day is recognized in Utah.

Discussion: Representative Hollins explained that Juneteenth was designated as a federal holiday in 2021 and was adopted as a state holiday the same year. She stated that there is a discrepancy in the federal holiday and the state holiday, leading some businesses to observe the holiday on different dates. HB 309 would standardize Juneteenth as a single, consistent state holiday aligned with the federal calendar.

Representative Shelley asked whether the Bill would create a new state holiday. Representative Hollins responded that it would not create an additional holiday but would instead realign the existing state holiday with the federal observance. The sponsor explained that if Juneteenth falls on a Sunday, the holiday would be observed on Monday, and if it falls on a Saturday, it would be observed on Friday.

The Legislative Chairman of the Utah Land Title Association testified in support of the Bill. The 1st substitute was adopted by the Committee.

Yea: 9

Nay: 0

N/V: 1

Outcome: 1st substitute HB 309 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.
