

SENATE No. 168

To accompany the petition of William J. Keenan for legislation to make the seventeenth day of March a legal holiday. Constitutional Law.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty-Three.

AN ACT MAKING THE SEVENTEENTH DAY OF MARCH A LEGAL HOLIDAY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Section 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out clause eighteenth, as most
3 recently amended by chapter 241 of the acts of 1948,
4 and inserting in place thereof the following clause:—
5 Eighteenth, "Legal holiday" shall include January
6 first, February twenty-second, March seventeenth,
7 April nineteenth, May thirtieth, July fourth, the first
8 Monday of September, October twelfth, November
9 eleventh, Thanksgiving day and Christmas day, or
10 the day following when any of the six days first men-
11 tioned, October twelfth, November eleventh, or
12 Christmas day occurs on Sunday; and the public
13 offices shall be closed on all of said days; and all laws,
14 statutes, orders, decrees, rules and regulations regu-
15 lating the observance of the Lord's day shall be ap-

16 plicable to May thirtieth and November eleventh be-
17 tween the hours of seven o'clock ante meridian and
18 one o'clock post meridian, or during the same hours
19 on the day following when May thirtieth or November
20 eleventh occurs on Sunday, except that on May
21 thirtieth, or on the day following when May thirtieth
22 occurs on Sunday, florist shops may be kept open all
23 of said day, and except that on November eleventh,
24 or on the day following when November eleventh oc-
25 curs on Sunday, hunting during said hours, if other-
26 wise lawful, shall not be prohibited; and all laws,
27 statutes, orders, decrees, rules and regulations regu-
28 lating the keeping open of retail stores on the Lord's
29 day shall be applicable to the keeping open of retail
30 stores on October twelfth between the hours of seven
31 o'clock ante meridian and one o'clock post meridian,
32 or during the same hours on the day following when
33 October twelfth occurs on Sunday.

34 "Legal holiday" shall also include, with respect to
35 Suffolk county only, June seventeenth, or the day fol-
36 lowing when June seventeenth occurs on Sunday, and
37 the public offices in said county shall be closed on said
38 June seventeenth or the day following when June
39 seventeenth occurs on Sunday.