

**The Florida Senate**  
**BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

---

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Rules

---

BILL: CS/SB 946

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and Senator Bullard

SUBJECT: Legal Holidays and Special Observances

DATE: April 17, 2015

REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Kim</u>	<u>McVaney</u>	<u>GO</u>	<b>Favorable</b>
2.	<u>Clift</u>	<u>Uchino</u>	<u>EP</u>	<b>Fav/CS</b>
3.	<u>Kim</u>	<u>Phelps</u>	<u>RC</u>	<b>Favorable</b>

---

**Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:**

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

---

**I. Summary:**

CS/SB 946 designates the second Monday of October of each year as “Sir Lancelot Jones Day” in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. The bill encourages citizens, public entities, and private organizations in these counties to honor Sir Lancelot Garfield Jones and his contributions in the preservation of Biscayne Bay and the establishment of Biscayne Bay National Park.

**II. Present Situation:**

**Sir Lancelot Garfield Jones**

Sir Lancelot Garfield Jones was born in 1898 and lived in Porgy Key, near Biscayne Bay. His parents were early settlers of the area and the Jones Family Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. He was a farmer, fisherman, and conservationist. He was a skilled fishing guide and fished with many notable men, including presidents Warren Harding, Herbert Hoover, Lyndon Johnson, John F. Kennedy, and Richard Nixon.<sup>1</sup> In 1970, he sold 277 acres of his property to the National Park Service to contribute to what is now known as Biscayne National Park.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Susan Shumaker, *Untold Stories from America's National Parks*, 47-68, available at <http://www-tc.pbs.org/nationalparks/media/pdfs/tnp-abi-untold-stories-pt-03-jones.pdf> (last accessed Apr. 7, 2015).

<sup>2</sup> National Park Service, *The Joneses of Porgy Key*, <http://www.nps.gov/bisc/learn/historyculture/the-joneses-of-porgy-key-page-3.htm> (Last accessed Apr. 6, 2015).

In 2014, Senate Resolution 1158 designated October 13, 2014, as “Lancelot Jones Day” in Florida. Currently, there is no legal holiday or special observance of Sir Lancelot Garfield Jones.

### **Legal Holidays and Special Observations**

Florida has 21 legal holidays and 31 special observations, which are designated under ch. 683, F.S. Celebration of legal holidays and special observances can be statewide or limited to certain groups, such as schools, counties, or branches of government. The dates, days, or months designated in ch. 683, F.S., may require the government or group to perform an action or may simply call for commemoration or observance. For example, on Pan American Day the Governor must issue a proclamation and all public schools must honor the countries of Latin America.<sup>3</sup> Gasparilla Day is a legal holiday on which government offices and banks are closed only in Hillsborough County.<sup>4</sup> Observance of a legal holiday may also be discretionary. For instance, a chief judge in a judicial circuit is authorized to designate Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Good Friday as legal holidays and close the courts in his or her circuit.<sup>5</sup>

State holidays on which all branches of state government are closed are found in s. 110.117, F.S.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill honors Sir Lancelot Garfield Jones and commemorates his contributions in the preservation of Biscayne Bay and the establishment of Biscayne Bay National Park by:

- Designating the second Monday of each October as “Sir Lancelot Jones Day” in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties; and
- Encouraging public officials, schools, private organizations, and all citizens to honor the legacy of Sir Lancelot Garfield Jones.

This bill becomes effective upon becoming a law.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

---

<sup>3</sup> Section 683.05, F.S.

<sup>4</sup> Section 683.08, F.S.

<sup>5</sup> Section 683.19, F.S.

**V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**

## A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

## B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

## C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill does not create a paid state holiday and does not require the governor to issue a proclamation. There should be no fiscal impact on state and local governments.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Statutes Affected:**

This bill creates section 683.095 of the Florida Statutes.

**IX. Additional Information:**

## A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

**CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on April 8, 2015:**

The CS limits the designation of “Sir Lancelot Jones Day” to Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties and deletes the authorization for the Governor to designate this holiday.

## B. Amendments:

None.