

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 298082

ADOPTED ON JUN 16 2003

WHEREAS, Juneteenth or June 19, 1865, is considered the date when the last slaves in America were freed, though actual emancipation did not come until General Gordon Granger rode into Galveston, Texas and issued General Order No. 3, two and half years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, it took a civil war to enforce the Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Lincoln, and approval of the 13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to formally outlaw slavery in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth symbolizes freedom that serves as a historical milestone reminding Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery and honors African-American ancestors who survived the inhumane institution of bondage, as well as demonstrating pride in the legacy of resistance and perseverance they left us; and


WHEREAS, today Juneteenth commemorates African-American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is a day, a week, and in some areas, a month marked with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics, family gatherings filled with reflection, rejoicing, assessment, self-improvement, and planning for the future; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth signifies a level of maturity and dignity in America, long overdue; and in cities across the country, nationalities and religions are joining hands to truthfully acknowledge a period in our history that helped shape and continues to influence our society; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, that JUNE 19, 2003, be and is hereby proclaimed to be **“JUNETEENTH 138TH CELEBRATION DAY”** in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By   
Lisa A. Foster  
Deputy City Attorney

LAF:jab  
6/06/03  
Or.Dept:CouncilDist.4  
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