



County of Sonoma  
State of California

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Date: June 13, 2022

Item Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Resolution Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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4/5 Vote Required

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**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,  
Recognizing Juneteenth**

**Whereas**, news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier areas of the United States, in particular the State of Texas and the other Southwestern States, until months after the conclusion of the Civil War, more than 2 ½ years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

**Whereas**, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and the enslaved were free; and

**Whereas**, African Americans who had been slaves in the Southwest celebrated June 19, commonly known as “Juneteenth Independence Day”, as inspiration and encouragement for future generations; and

**Whereas**, Juneteenth has been observed by African Americans since the 1800s and continues to receive recognition by many communities across the country; and

**Whereas**, Juneteenth Independence Day began as a holiday in the State of Texas and is now celebrated in 49 States and the District of Columbia as a special day of observance in recognition of the emancipation of all slaves in the United States; and

**Whereas**, Juneteenth Independence Day celebrations have been held to honor African American freedom while encouraging self-development and respect for all cultures; and

**Whereas**, the faith and strength of character demonstrated by former slaves and the descendants of former slaves remain an example for all people of the United States, regardless of background, religion, or race; and

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**Now, therefore be it resolved** that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma:

(1) recognizes the historical significance of Juneteenth and designates June 19, 2022, as “Juneteenth Independence Day”; and

(2) supports community celebrations of Juneteenth Independence Day to provide an opportunity for our residents to learn more about the past and to better understand the experiences that have shaped us.

**Supervisors:**

Gorin:

Rabbitt:

Coursey:

Hopkins:

Gore:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

**So Ordered.**