

As Introduced

**134th General Assembly
Regular Session
2021-2022**

S. R. No. 363

Senators Craig, Fedor

**Cosponsors: Senators Thomas, Maharath, Brenner, Sykes, Yuko, Antonio,
Romanchuk**

A RESOLUTION

Honoring June 19, 2022 as Juneteenth Day.

WHEREAS, The members of the Senate of the 134th General Assembly 1
of Ohio are pleased to recognize June 19, 2022 as Juneteenth Day and 2
celebrate the First Anniversary of its establishment; and 3

WHEREAS, On September 22, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln 4
issued a preliminary proclamation notifying the people of 5
the Southern states that if they did not return to the 6
Union by January 1, 1863, they would be in rebellion 7
against the United States, and he would declare their 8
slaves "forever free." The final Emancipation Proclamation 9
was issued on January 1, 1863, formally declaring all 10
slaves free, and on June 19, 1865, Union General Gordon Granger and 11
his troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, with this news of freedom. 12
Juneteenth commemorates this day when the last slaves in America 13
learned of their emancipation; and 14

WHEREAS, First recognized by the State of Ohio in 2006, Juneteenth 15
was formally established as a public holiday by the Juneteenth 16
National Independence Day Act on June 17, 2021, and it pays tribute to 17
African-American freedom while encouraging equality in housing, 18
education, healthcare, policing, and the criminal justice system. 19
Indeed, all Ohioans should feel encouraged by this event to reexamine 20
American history, to reflect on the struggles of the past to ensure 21
liberty and fairness for all citizens, and to recommit themselves 22
toward building a better future for the generations yet to come; and 23

WHEREAS, The spirit of our nation is founded upon its past, and 24

the memorializing of significant events is vital to the preservation 25
of America's heritage. Celebration of Juneteenth ensures that the 26
important details of our history are transmitted to succeeding 27
generations for their reflection and appreciation, and we salute the 28
many individuals and groups who are gathering to preserve this legacy; 29
therefore be it 30

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 134th General 31
Assembly of Ohio, in adopting this Resolution, acknowledge June 19, 32
2022 as Juneteenth Day; and be it further 33

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly authenticated 34
copies of this Resolution to the news media of Ohio. 35