

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE MEMORIAL 2

54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SPECIAL SESSION, 2020

INTRODUCED BY

Sheryl Williams Stapleton

A MEMORIAL

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE THIRD SATURDAY OF JUNE EVERY
YEAR AS "JUNETEENTH FREEDOM DAY".

WHEREAS, as the state celebrates Juneteenth, let us call
to action our national, state and local officials to create
sweeping reforms within government regarding police and public
safety in communities of color; and

WHEREAS, current protests and uprisings represent the
continued quest for equality for Black Americans in the United
States; and

WHEREAS, amid the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic,
protests for racial justice continue the spirit of Juneteenth,
making it a fitting holiday for unprecedented times; and

WHEREAS, the unconscionable examples of racism witnessed
over the past weeks and months come as communities of color

underscoring material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 have been hit hardest by the coronavirus disease 2019 and
2 catastrophic job losses; and

3 WHEREAS, protestors are marching for justice in
4 unprecedented numbers and giving voice to the grief and anger
5 that generations of Americans have suffered at the hands of the
6 criminal justice system; and

7 WHEREAS, with the celebration of Juneteenth in 2020, young
8 and old, black and white and family and friends have joined
9 together to say "enough"; and

10 WHEREAS, the thirteenth amendment to the constitution of
11 the United States abolished slavery throughout the United
12 States and its territories, and the significance of June 19,
13 1865 is that it is the day on which that message of freedom and
14 abolition reached the western states; and

15 WHEREAS, Juneteenth promotes recognition of the importance
16 of African Americans as American citizens and New Mexico
17 residents;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
19 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the third
20 Saturday of June every year be recognized and celebrated as
21 "Juneteenth Freedom Day"; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all residents of New Mexico
23 honor Black Americans' continued quest for equality and the
24 traditions that celebrate freedom.