

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 1744

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation  
2 is hosting its 2023 Juneteenth Celebration from June 9 to 17; and

3           WHEREAS, The Emancipation Proclamation was promulgated on  
4 January 1, 1863, but it would not be enforced in Texas until after  
5 the Civil War; on June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger of the  
6 Union Army arrived in Galveston and that same day issued General  
7 Order No. 3, declaring the freedom of all those held in bondage;  
8 emancipated men and women marked the first anniversary of this date  
9 in 1866, and over the years, Juneteenth became a proud celebration  
10 of a momentous milestone in this nation's history; in 1979, Texas  
11 became the first state to make the celebration an official holiday,  
12 and a bill was passed in Congress in 2021 that established  
13 Juneteenth as a federal holiday; and

14           WHEREAS, The Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation  
15 was established in 2002 with the goals of organizing culturally  
16 relevant activities, creating programs to nurture young talent, and  
17 bringing together families from all backgrounds in a wholesome and  
18 inspiring setting; today, the program has grown to encompass a wide  
19 variety of activities, including a kick-off reception, a parade, a  
20 community service awards gala, and a golf tournament as well as  
21 musical performances; the Freedom Tree, located in Freedom Tree  
22 Park, serves as a focal point and symbol of African American  
23 resilience; and

24           WHEREAS, The much-anticipated Juneteenth celebration in

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1 Missouri City provides a fitting opportunity to reflect on African  
2 Americans' long road to freedom and to recognize their immeasurable  
3 contributions to the building of this country over the centuries;  
4 now, therefore, be it

5       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 88th Texas  
6 Legislature hereby commemorate the 2023 Missouri City Juneteenth  
7 Celebration and extend to all those participating sincere best  
8 wishes for a memorable and meaningful event.