

By: Reynolds

H.R. No. 1893

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation
2 is commemorating Juneteenth, the historic date that signifies the
3 end of slavery in Texas; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2002, city council member Don Smith established
5 the foundation to engage residents, businesses, and civic leaders
6 in the creation of an event celebrating the anniversary of June 19,
7 1865, the date when Union soldiers landed in Galveston with the news
8 of President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation; and

9 WHEREAS, The annual Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration now
10 offers five days of family-oriented activities, including a parade,
11 historical reenactments, a golf tournament, a "battle of the bands"
12 for high school musicians, a health and wellness fair, and musical
13 performances in a wide variety of genres; while events take place in
14 a number of venues, the focal point remains the Freedom Tree located
15 in Freedom Tree Park; and

16 WHEREAS, In addition to organizing the festival, the
17 foundation strives to enhance opportunities for Fort Bend County
18 students; it supports a college scholarship fund, and it develops
19 programs to nurture and showcase the talents of local youths; and

20 WHEREAS, Under the continued leadership of chair Don Smith,
21 the Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration Foundation promotes
22 community involvement, increases knowledge of African American
23 history, and fosters goodwill and fellowship among area residents;
24 now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 83rd Texas
2 Legislature hereby honor the Missouri City Juneteenth Celebration
3 Foundation for working to commemorate a momentous day in Texas
4 history and extend to all those involved with the organization
5 sincere best wishes for a successful 2013 event; and, be it further

6 RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be
7 prepared for the foundation as an expression of high regard by the
8 Texas House of Representatives.