H.R. No. 2091

R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, Residents of Mesquite are gathering together on June 19, 2021, for the city's second annual Juneteenth Celebration; and

WHEREAS, The oldest known observance commemorating the end of slavery in the United States, Juneteenth specifically celebrates the emancipation of African American slaves in Texas; and

WHEREAS, On June 19, 1865, Union Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston with federal troops to provide military support for Reconstruction efforts and to enforce President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation; that same day, General Granger read publicly his General Order No. 3, which proclaimed that all slaves were undeniably free from that date onward and that there would be "an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves"; and

WHEREAS, Held on June 19 of each year, the commemoration of this momentous event became known as "Juneteenth," and celebrations grew over the decades to encompass recitations of the Emancipation Proclamation, readings by notable people, and such festive activities as singing, parades, rodeos, street fairs, and cookouts; the celebration in Mesquite, which is hosted by Mesquite Tri-East NAACP and sponsored by the City of Mesquite and Kroger, will include area business vendors, food and drink, and games; in addition, the event will feature music by DJ Mark B; and

WHEREAS, More than 150 years after emancipation was proclaimed in Texas, Juneteenth continues to inspire gatherings that honor the myriad achievements and immeasurable fortitude of the African American community in the Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby commemorate the 2021 Mesquite Juneteenth Celebration and extend to all those in attendance sincere best wishes for a meaningful and memorable occasion.

Neave

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 2091 was adopted by the House on May 31, 2021, by a non-record vote.

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Chief Clerk of the House