

MOTION: Ginoba

**May 8, 2025
Regular Meeting
HRC RES 25-07**

SECOND: Baldwin

RE: RESOLUTION TO DECLARE, AFFIRM, AND RECOGNIZE THE 19TH OF JUNE OF 2025 AS JUNETEENTH DAY.

ACTION:

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862, which became effective on January 1, 1863, thereby freeing enslaved people in those states or parts of states still in rebellion, including the Commonwealth of Virginia as of January 1, 1863, and

WHEREAS, On June 19, 1865, Union troops freed enslaved African Americans in Galveston Bay and across Texas, some two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, and

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution was ratified on December 6, 1865, ending chattel slavery across the United States and in every territory under its control, except as a criminal punishment, and

WHEREAS, On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, making June 19 a legal public holiday, and

WHEREAS, the annual observance of Juneteenth provides residents of Prince William County, the tenth most diverse county in the nation and the most diverse county in the Commonwealth of Virginia, an opportunity to reflect on the impact of slavery and remember those who were enslaved here and their profound contributions to our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Prince William County Human Rights Commission encourages all residents to pause and reflect upon the significance of June 19, 1865, and its importance in our never-ending effort to make our nation a more perfect union.

Votes

Ayes: Johnston, Ginoba, BruMar, Porter, Baldwin, Pratter, Staubly, Sparkes

Nays: None

Abstained: None

Absent from the meeting: Young

ATTEST:



Executive Director