

SIXTY FIFTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SPECIAL SESSION

TWENTY EIGHTH DAY

House Chamber, Olympia, Monday, June 19, 2017

The House was called to order at 9:55 a.m. by the Speaker (Representative Robinson presiding).

Reading of the Journal of the previous day was dispensed with and it was ordered to stand approved.

RESOLUTION**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2017-4647, by Representative Lovick**

WHEREAS, The three most significant documents in United States history that exemplify America's passion for freedom are the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, Each has maintained its rightful place in the annals of American history, only the Constitution and the Bill of Rights have identifiable dates emphasizing their importance to the American People through celebration of the Fourth of July, Constitution Day, and Flag Day; and

WHEREAS, President Abraham Lincoln ended slavery in the United States with the Emancipation Proclamation, which became official January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, Slavery remained in the state of Texas for more than two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by President Abraham Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, On June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger of the Union Army led his troops into the city of Galveston, Texas and officially proclaimed freedom for slaves in that state; and

WHEREAS, General Granger's order reads in part: "The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights

and rights of property between masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer"; and

WHEREAS, The celebration of "Juneteenth" - June 19th - is the oldest known celebration of the ending of slavery because it marks the day that slaves in the state of Texas were informed of the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, As African-Americans from Texas and other parts of the South began to migrate to other parts of the United States, they took with them the tradition of Juneteenth, spreading the word that African-American Freedom has roots in the celebration of Juneteenth; and

WHEREAS, Today, Juneteenth commemorates African-American freedom emphasizing education and achievement, through reflection, rejoicing, and planning for the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives celebrate the end of slavery on June 19th.

There being no objection, HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 4647 was adopted.

There being no objection, the House adjourned until 9:55 a.m., June 21, 2017, the 30th Day of the 2nd Special Session.

FRANK CHOPP, Speaker

BERNARD DEAN, Chief Clerk