



A Proclamation by the Governor

WHEREAS, most citizens believe that the issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863 legally ended slavery, however, that Proclamation only applied to states which seceded from the Union; and

WHEREAS, the Thirteenth Amendment was ratified in Nevada on February 16, 1865 and nationally in December 1865, ending the institution of slavery; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth, or June 19, 1865, is nationally recognized as the date when freedom was announced to some of the last slaves in America by General Gordon Granger, who arrived in Galveston, Texas and issued General Order Number Three, almost two-and-a-half years after President Lincoln had issued the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, President Harry S. Truman signed a bill in 1948 proclaiming February 1 National Freedom Day in honor of the Emancipation Proclamation, a first step in commemorating the freeing of slaves and freedom for all; and

WHEREAS, for 152 years, Juneteenth Independence Day continues to be the most recognized African-American holiday observance, also known as Emancipation Day, Emancipation Celebration, Freedom Day, Jun-Jun, Juneteenth National Freedom Day and Juneteenth; and

WHEREAS, the State of Nevada is one of 45 states to officially recognize Juneteenth Independence Day as a state holiday or state holiday observance; and

WHEREAS, Nevada documents African Americans as business and property owners in Virginia City in 1866, contributors to the early mining and development of Nevada and their collective descendants worked on the building of the Hoover Dam; and

WHEREAS, Americans of all colors, creeds, cultures, religions, and countries of origin, share in a common love of and respect for freedom, as well as the determination to protect their right to freedom through the democratic institutions by which the tenets of freedom are guaranteed and protected;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2017 as

JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY IN NEVADA



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 5th day of May, 2017.

By the Governor:

Governor

Barbara K. Segarste
Secretary of State

By

Scott W. Kessler
Deputy

By the _____
Secretary of the _____

the _____ day of _____
18____ at the _____ in _____
County _____ State of _____

Witness my hand and seal this _____ day of _____ 18____

