



Introduced by City Council and the Administration on June 17, 2020

Recognizing Juneteenth Freedom Day as a Day of Remembrance

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the abolition of slavery in the United States and the emancipation of African American slaves throughout the Confederate south; and

WHEREAS, the Emancipation Proclamation, issued on January 1, 1863, came to fruition in the entire south, two years later on June 19, 1865 when Union soldiers landed in Galveston; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth marked the end of slavery in the United States and is celebrated to this day as a way to unite the community; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates African-American freedom and the common mission of promoting and cultivating knowledge and appreciation of the African American story – the history, resilience and struggle in helping to make this country live up to its ideals.

NOW, THEREFORE ALLENTOWN CITY COUNCIL and the Administration recognizes **Juneteenth** and the continuing journey and struggle for freedom and equality in America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council and the Administration recommend the state and county set this day as a special holiday for state observance.