



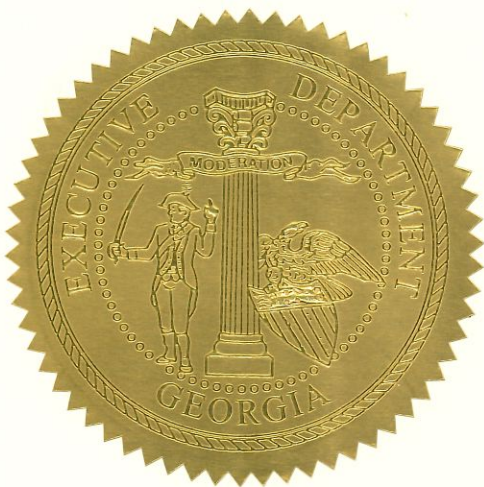
BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

JUNETEENTH

- WHEREAS:** On June 19, 1865, Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger landed on the shores of Galveston, Texas, to declare that the Civil War had ended and all those enslaved in the South were now free. Although President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation had been issued more than two years prior, Union troops had previously been unable to fully enforce the order; and
- WHEREAS:** As one of the oldest American holidays, Juneteenth commemorates the freeing of formerly enslaved individuals and their descendants. It has historically been a time of prayer, reflection, and family reunion; and
- WHEREAS:** Juneteenth also highlights the artistic and intellectual achievements collectively preserved through the pre and post Middle Passage, the slave trade, the emancipation era, and the Civil Rights Movement, as well as more recent accomplishments of African American cultural expression; and
- WHEREAS:** Although Juneteenth is specific to the emancipation of African descendants, its message promotes the continued freedom and economic prosperity of individuals from all races, colors, creeds, and cultures; and
- WHEREAS:** It is an honor to recognize the holiday of Juneteenth in the great state of Georgia, and acknowledge the suffering, trials, and tribulations of all those of African descent; now
- THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2021 as JUNETEENTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 16th day of June in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



B. Kemp

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Manton Kippenrich

CHIEF OF STAFF