

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 195

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUSTIN MILLER

A RESOLUTION

To recognize June 19, 2023, as Juneteenth Day in Opelousas.

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, which declared "that all persons held as slaves" within the Confederacy "are, and henceforth shall be free"; and

WHEREAS, news of this development traveled slowly after President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, indeed, the belated news relative to the Emancipation Proclamation did not arrive to the Confederacy until June 19, 1865; and

WHEREAS, subsequently, June 19th became known as "Juneteenth" and has been celebrated annually ever since; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Rebecca Henry has organized the celebration of Juneteenth for the past thirty-nine years; and

WHEREAS, in our own time, it is imperative to promote the positive aspects of African American culture, especially when that culture is too often associated with problems such as drugs, crime, poverty, and violence; and

WHEREAS, the city of Opelousas will do its part to promote such positive aspects when it sponsors the celebration of Juneteenth, 2023; and

WHEREAS, in Opelousas, Juneteenth will be celebrated at the Opelousas Farmer's Market on Saturday, June 17, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the people of the city of Opelousas are united in their support of this promotion of African American history, culture, self-esteem, and pride.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize June 19, 2023, as Juneteenth Day in the city of Opelousas and does hereby commend the citizens of Opelousas for their celebration and commemoration of African American history and culture.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES