

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2019, Legislative Day No. 32

Resolution No. 27-19

Introduced by Ms. Rodvien and Ms. Lacey

By the County Council, June 17, 2019

1 RESOLUTION recognizing June 19, 2019 as Juneteenth National Freedom Day in
2 Anne Arundel County

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4 WHEREAS, more than two and a half years after the Emancipation Proclamation
5 was issued by President Abraham Lincoln news of the end of slavery still had not
6 reached the frontier areas of the United States; and

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8 WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers, led by Major General Gordon
9 Granger, arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and
10 that the enslaved were free; and

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12 WHEREAS, Juneteenth, or June 19, is celebrated each year as the date when the
13 last enslaved people in the United States were freed and commemorates the
14 spontaneous celebration that erupted among African-Americans upon learning of
15 their freedom more than 150 years ago; and

16
17 WHEREAS, in 2014 the Maryland General Assembly passed a law requiring the
18 Governor to the proclaim June 19 as Juneteenth National Freedom Day every year
19 as a special day of observance in recognition of the emancipation of all slaves in
20 the United States; and

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22 WHEREAS, Juneteenth National Freedom Day, which recalls how slaves hated
23 slavery and celebrated its abolishment with excitement and great joy, serves as a
24 reminder to all Americans of the status and importance of Americans of African
25 descent; and

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27 WHEREAS, slavery was not officially abolished until the ratification of the 13th
28 Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in December 1865; and

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30 WHEREAS, the faith and strength of character demonstrated by former slaves and
31 the descendants of former slaves remain an example for all people of the United
32 States, regardless of background, religion, or race; now, therefore, be it

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34 *Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, That it hereby*
35 *recognizes June 19, 2019 as Juneteenth National Freedom Day in Anne Arundel County*
36 *and calls upon the people of Anne Arundel County to join their fellow citizens in*
37 *recognizing this special observance; and be it further*

38
39 *Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to County Executive Steuart Pittman.*

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READ AND PASSED this 17th day of June, 2019

By Order:



JoAnne Gray
Administrative Officer

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT RESOLUTION NO. 27-19 IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND DULY ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.



Andrew Pruski
Chairman