

By: Senator(s) Simmons, Frazier, Jackson  
(32nd)

To: Rules

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 605

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING JUNE 19 AS "JUNETEENTH  
2 FREEDOM DAY."

3 WHEREAS, the date of June 19 is known as "Juneteenth," and it  
4 is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the ending of  
5 slavery in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, the commemoration of June 19th as Juneteenth  
7 specifically refers to the fact that, even though President  
8 Lincoln announced the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, the  
9 joyous news of freedom from slavery did not reach certain  
10 Americans in Galveston, Texas, until June 19, 1865; and

11 WHEREAS, Juneteenth commemorates freedom from slavery in  
12 America, emphasizes education and achievement, and is a time for  
13 reflection and rejoicing in the African-American experience; and

14 WHEREAS, the celebration of Juneteenth is inclusive of all  
15 races, ethnicities, religions and nationalities, in that citizens  
16 across our country join hands in acknowledging a period in our  
17 history that has influenced our society--a great society that  
18 advances the ideals of liberty and justice for all;

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF  
20 MISSISSIPPI, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That  
21 we do hereby recognize June 19 as "Juneteenth Freedom Day" in  
22 recognition and commemoration of June 19, 1865, as the date of the  
23 communication to former slaves of African descent of the fact that  
24 slavery had ended in America, and as a day when the ideals of  
25 liberty and justice for all citizens is celebrated. We  
26 acknowledge that this day is a day of commemoration, recognition  
27 and observation and not to be recognized as a legal holiday.



28           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That this resolution be made available  
29 to the Capitol Press Corps.

