



HR0408

LRB101 12536 ALS 60878 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the McLean County  
4 Historical Society/Bloomington-Normal Black History Project on  
5 the revitalization of its Juneteenth Celebration; and

6           WHEREAS, Dating back to 1865, Juneteenth is the oldest  
7 known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the  
8 United States; it was on June 19th that the Union soldiers, led  
9 by Major General Gordon Granger, landed at Galveston, Texas  
10 with news that the war had ended and the enslaved were now  
11 free; with this news, the Blacks went from shock to rejoicing  
12 and chose to celebrate their new-found freedom with  
13 inspirational speeches, songs, dances, and food that  
14 celebrated their heritage; and

15           WHEREAS, With the same spirit of the earlier celebrations,  
16 Bloomington-Normal held its first Juneteenth Celebration,  
17 sponsored by the Bloomington-Normal Black History Project, in  
18 1993; and

19           WHEREAS, The Juneteenth Celebration acknowledges the  
20 contributions of African Americans in the community through  
21 history, music, dance, storytelling, speeches, and food and  
22 fellowship; and

1           WHEREAS,           The           McLean           County           Historical  
2           Society/Bloomington-Normal Black History Project is hosting  
3           its Juneteenth Celebration on Saturday, June 22, 2019 at Miller  
4           Park; therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
6           HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
7           we           congratulate           the           McLean           County           Historical  
8           Society/Bloomington-Normal Black History Project on the  
9           revitalization of its Juneteenth Celebration and commend its  
10          mission to enrich the community with the history of the  
11          Juneteenth Celebration; and be it further

12          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13          presented           the           McLean           County           Historical  
14          Society/Bloomington-Normal Black History Project as an  
15          expression of our esteem and respect.