**A** **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE JUNE 19, 2010, “JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA, A DAY OF REFLECTION AND COMMEMORATION OF THE FREEDOM OF AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THIS COUNTRY.

Whereas, in support of South Carolina’s annual “Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom Day,” the House of Representatives recognizes the contributions of African Americans past, present, and future; and

Whereas, due to God‑given strength and determination, African Americans survived and arrived in America after a month‑long journey across the Atlantic Ocean known as the “Middle Passage,” and Juneteenth acknowledges that journey; and

Whereas, “Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom Day” commemorates the day freedom was proclaimed to all slaves in the South by Union General Granger on June 19, 1865, in Galveston, Texas, more than two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln; and

Whereas, Americans of all colors, creeds, cultures, religions, and countries of origins share in a common love of freedom, as well as determination to protect their right to freedom through democratic institutions, by which the tenets of liberty are guaranteed and protected; and

Whereas, accordingly, in 2008, the State of South Carolina passed a law designating June 19 of every year as “Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom Day,” in order that these things might never be forgotten or taken for granted. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives:

That the members of the South Carolina House of Representatives, by this resolution, declare June 19, 2010, “Juneteenth Celebration of Freedom Day” in South Carolina, a day of reflection and commemoration of the freedom of African Americans and their contributions to this country.

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