



2015 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 96

February 9, 2016 - Introduced by Senators L. TAYLOR, HARRIS DODD, C. LARSON, LASSA, MILLER, RINGHAND, RISSER, ROTH, SHILLING and VINEHOUT, cosponsored by Representatives YOUNG, BARNES, BERCEAU, BOWEN, GOYKE, JORGENSEN, MASON, MILROY, OHNSTAD, SINICKI, SPREITZER, SUBECK, ZEPNICK and C. TAYLOR. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** recognizing June 19, 2016, as Juneteenth Day in Wisconsin.

2 Whereas, Juneteenth Day is a national holiday that celebrates the end of
3 slavery in the United States, and Juneteenth Day specifically commemorates June
4 19, 1865, the day that Union General Gordon Granger spoke in Galveston, Texas,
5 proclaiming free the last remaining slaves in the United States; and

6 Whereas, Union General Gordon Granger delivered this news to recognize the
7 freedom of these men, and this proclamation was given nearly two and a half years
8 after the Emancipation Proclamation was declared; and

9 Whereas, slavery in the United States lasted over 250 years and enslaved
10 millions of African-Americans in horrific conditions throughout all regions in the
11 United States, including in Wisconsin, where hundreds of slaves were held illegally;
12 and

13 Whereas, Juneteenth Day is officially observed in 43 states across the country,
14 and Juneteenth Day has come to signify a celebration of African-American freedom,
15 achievement, and history; and

