



2013 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 39

June 10, 2013 – Introduced by Senators L. TAYLOR, HARRIS, CARPENTER, C. LARSON, ERPENBACH, LEHMAN, WIRCH, VINEHOUT and HANSEN, cosponsored by Representatives BARNES, YOUNG, JOHNSON, ZAMARRIPA, PASCH, GOYKE, KESSLER, ZEPNICK, C. TAYLOR, GENRICH, KAHL, MILROY, HINTZ, BERNARD SCHABER, HESSELBEIN, JORGENSEN, MASON, SARGENT, KOLSTE, SHANKLAND and DANOU. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** recognizing June 19, 2013, as Juneteenth Day.

2 Whereas, President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation
3 on January 1, 1863, proclaiming all individuals enslaved in Confederate territory to
4 be forever free, and ordered the Army and all parts of the executive branch to treat
5 as free all those enslaved; and

6 Whereas, more than two years later, on June 19, 1865, in Galveston, Texas, the
7 U.S. Army, led by Major General Gordon Granger, announced the abolition of slavery
8 to those still trapped in darkness, unshackling the last remaining enslaved African
9 Americans from the grip of slavery; and

10 Whereas, Juneteenth Day is the oldest commemoration of the abolition of
11 slavery throughout the nation, long celebrated in the city of Milwaukee and codified
12 in 2009 by the state of Wisconsin as an official legal holiday; and

13 Whereas, Juneteenth Day is a time of remembrance, reflection, and celebration
14 across the state and the nation, a day to honor the elimination of slavery and to
15 celebrate the proclamation of freedom; now, therefore, be it

