

EXECUTIVE ORDER #79

Relating to a Proclamation that the Juneteenth Flag Be Flown over the East Wing of the State Capitol Building

WHEREAS, Juneteenth Day remembers and honors June 19, 1865, as the end to slavery in the United States;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is declared a day of celebration commeniorating the day on which the enslaved people living in Galveston, Texas, finally received word of their freedom under the Emancipation Proclamation, more than two years after it was issued;

WHEREAS, slavery is a toxic tool of oppression and exploitation that, over the course of centuries, has led to deep, institutionalized racial disparities in wealth, status, health, and capital that remain pervasive in our world today;

WHEREAS, the crimes and struggles of our collective past are inseparable from our present, and while slavery may have ended in name, inequities and racism persist, manifesting in systems dependent on the continued oppression of Black Americans; we must continue to do the hard and uncomfortable work of dismantling the institutional oppression that exists in our state and our country;

WHEREAS, Juneteenth Day is an opportunity to recognize and reflect on the past, while acknowledging the work we have yet to do in keeping our country's promise of justice, freedom, and equity; and

WHEREAS, the Juneteenth Flag is a symbolic reminder of the injustices of our past, our current moment, and hope for our future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, hereby order that the Juneteenth Flag shall be flown over the East Wing of the State Capitol Building, beginning at sunrise on Friday, June 19, 2020, and ending at sunrise on Saturday, June 20, 2020.

By the Governor:

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this seventeenth day of June in the year of two thousand twenty.

Governor

Secretary of State

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE