



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE ORDER #230

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

WHEREAS, Juneteenth Day remembers and honors June 19, 1865, as the end to human chattel slavery in the United States and, since then, June 19 has become known as Juneteenth, and is one of the oldest and most popular annual commemorations of the true end of slavery in the U.S.;

WHEREAS, while the Emancipation Proclamation was issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, for more than two years after, slavery continued in Texas due to a lack of enforcement of the 1863 proclamation in the westernmost Confederate state;

WHEREAS, on June 19, 1865, Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, to declare the end of slavery, freeing the more than 250,000 Black Americans who had continued to be enslaved there;

WHEREAS, with the signing of the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act in 2021, Juneteenth became an official federal public holiday in the U.S.;

WHEREAS, in 2009, Wisconsin became the 32nd state to formally recognize Juneteenth, although legislation to recognize the day in Wisconsin was first introduced by State Senator Spencer Coggs and State Representative Marcia Coggs in 1987;

WHEREAS, on June 19, 2020, the Juneteenth Flag was raised over the Wisconsin State Capitol for the first time in state history with the red, white, and blue elements of the flag reminding us of the promise to the enslaved that their descendants shall be “forever free”;

WHEREAS, the state reaffirms its commitment to the work that still must be done to build a more just and more equitable state for everyone and uphold the belief that every generation will be better than the last; and

WHEREAS, on this occasion, Wisconsinites are encouraged to celebrate the end of one of the country’s most shameful institutions, reflect on the nation’s collective past and how it informs the systems of oppression that persist today, acknowledge the work that is necessary to address its lasting impact, and to move forward together toward a brighter, stronger future for every kid, family, and community.

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:

1. Order that the Juneteenth Flag shall be flown over the East Wing of the State Capitol Building, beginning on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, and ending at sunset on Wednesday, June 19, 2024.

2. Authorize state buildings and any jurisdiction of the state of Wisconsin to fly the Juneteenth Flag on the same dates, for the purpose of recognizing Juneteenth.



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-four.

Tony Evers

TONY EVERS
Governor

By the Governor:

Sarah Godlewski

SARAH GODLEWSKI
Secretary of State