

112TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. J. RES. 45

Amending title 36, United States Code, to designate June 19 as “Juneteenth Independence Day”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 19, 2012

Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. AKAKA) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Amending title 36, United States Code, to designate June 19 as “Juneteenth Independence Day”.

Whereas news of the end of slavery did not reach the frontier of the United States, and in particular the Southwestern States, for more than 2½ years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, and months after the conclusion of the Civil War;

Whereas, on June 19, 1865, Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and that the slaves were free;

1 serve Juneteenth Independence Day with appropriate
2 ceremonies, programs, and activities.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
4 for chapter 1 of title 36, United States Code, is amended
5 by adding at the end the following:

“145. Juneteenth Independence Day.”.

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