

PROCLAMATION/RESOLUTION NO. 101 - 2020
A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND SUPPORTING JUNETEENTH IN KITSAP COUNTY

WHEREAS, June 19 is recognized nationally as Juneteenth, the oldest known celebration marking the date on which news of the end of slavery reached slaves in Southwestern states, more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863; and

WHEREAS, slavery was not officially abolished until ratification of the 13th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in December 1865; and

WHEREAS, African Americans who had been slaves celebrated June 19 as Juneteenth Independence Day as inspiration and encouragement for future generations; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is now celebrated as an African American holiday and a special day of observance in recognition of the emancipation of all slaves in the United States since Congress in 1997 officially recognized Juneteenth as the independence day observance of Americans of African descent; and

WHEREAS, the faith and strength of character demonstrated by former slaves and the descendants of former slaves remain an example for all people of Kitsap County of different races, religions, cultural backgrounds and countries of origin.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners hereby commemorates and recognizes Juneteenth on June 19, 2020 and encourages people to celebrate the historical significance of this day, learn more about the past to better understand experiences that have shaped our country, and virtually or in person join Juneteenth events including a Juneteenth Candlelight Vigil occurring Friday, June 19 at 8:46 p.m. outside of the Marvin Williams Center, Bremerton and the March for Black Lives on Saturday June 20 at 12 noon starting at the southside steps to the Norm Dicks Government Center.

Adopted this 17th day of June 2020.

**KITSAP COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
KITSAP COUNTY, WASHINGTON**



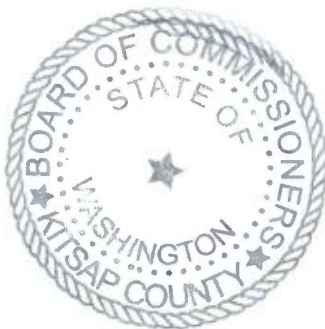
CHARLOTTE GARRIDO, Chair



ROBERT GELDER, Commissioner



EDWARD E. WOLFE, Commissioner



ATTEST:



Dana Daniels, Clerk of the Board