Jackson County Missouri

Jackson County Courthouse
415 E.12th Street, 2nd floor
Kansas City, Missouri
64106
(816)881-3242

Legislation Text

File #: 5590, **Version:** 0

IN THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF JACKSON COUNTY, MISSOURI

AN ORDINANCE repealing section 1401., <u>Jackson County Code</u>, 1984, relating to County holidays, and enacting, in lieu thereof, one new section relating to the same subject.

ORDINANCE NO. 5590, January 18, 2022

INTRODUCED BY   Jalen Anderson, Crystal Williams, Dan Tarwater III, Ronald E. Finley, Tony Miller, Scott Burnett, Charlie Franklin, Jeanie Lauer, and Theresa Cass Galvin, County Legislators

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is one of the oldest known celebrations commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, the first Juneteenth parades, held in Washington, D.C., annually from 1866 until 1901 and revived in 2002, celebrated the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia by the United States Congress, which occurred eight months before the Emancipation Proclamation was issued by President Abraham Lincoln; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is traditionally known as a cultural event that celebrates the emancipation of slaves in America, even though not all enslaved persons were freed by the Emancipation

Proclamation; and,

WHEREAS, three regiments of United States Colored Troops entered the Rio Grande Valley in the fall of 1864, long before Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, in June 1865 to issue General Order No. 3, announcing the end of the Civil War and the emancipation of all formerly enslaved people; and,

WHEREAS, Juneteenth was brought from Texas to Jackson County in 1980 by Horace M. Peterson III, founder of the Black Archives of Mid-America-Kansas City, as an annual heritage celebration and platform that recognizes the emancipation of enslaved Africans in America and pays tribute to the Black founders and important citizens of Jackson County; and,

WEHERAS, the Black Archives continues to play a vital role in Jackson County through the voluntary service of dedicated past and present members of its board of directors, a small staff, and committed volunteers; and,

WHEREAS, County associates should have the opportunity to pay tribute to the Black founders of Jackson County and celebrate Juneteenth by giving back to Jackson County through a day of service, and,

WHEREAS, by Ordinance 5513, dated June 7, 2021, the Legislature previously established a

Juneteenth County holiday to be observed on the third Friday in June; and,

WHEREAS, it is now appropriate that the observation day of the Juneteenth holiday be adjusted to the actual date of June 19, or the preceding Friday or following Monday, if June 19 falls on a weekend, to conform with the observation date established by the federal government; now therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the County Legislature of Jackson County, Missouri, as follows:

Section A. <u>Enacting Clause.</u>

Section 1401., <u>Jackson County Code</u>, 1984, is hereby repealed, and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 1401., to read as follows:

1401.   <u>Holidays</u>.

The County Executive shall by executive order establish the days and number of County holidays so long as the total number of holidays does not exceed twelve (12) per year. The list of holidays established by executive order shall include a Juneteenth holiday on the [third Friday in] <u>nineteenth day of</u> June.

Effective Date: This ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its signature by the County Executive.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

_____   _____
Chief Deputy County Counselor   County Counselor

I hereby certify that the attached ordinance, Ordinance No. 5590 introduced on January 18, 2022, was duly passed on January 18, 2022 by the Jackson County Legislature. The votes thereon were as follows:

Yeas _____8_____   Nays _____0_____

Abstaining _____0_____   Absent _____1_____

This Ordinance is hereby transmitted to the County Executive for his signature.

_____   _____
Date   Mary Jo Spino, Clerk of Legislature

I hereby approve the attached Ordinance No. 5590.

_____   _____
Date   Frank White, Jr., County Executive