

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, *neither the Declaration of Independence nor the Emancipation Proclamation included all the enslaved descendants of Africans; and*

WHEREAS, *when Union Major General Gordon Granger read General Order Number 3 in Galveston, Texas, on June 19, 1865, it contained the important words "all slaves are free," causing impromptu celebrations across the state as the long-delayed news spread; and*

WHEREAS, *Juneteenth Independence Day is the oldest and most widely-known celebration of African-American emancipation and a time for revival meetings, family reunions and celebrations of freedom; and*

WHEREAS, *in 1997, the 105th United States Congress passed Senate Joint Resolution 11 and House Joint Resolution 56 officially recognizing Juneteenth Independence Day; and*

WHEREAS, *in 2001, members of the Seventy-first Oregon Legislative Assembly passed Senate Joint Resolution 31 that proclaims June 19 of each year as Juneteenth Independence Day, a day for a statewide celebration of dignity and freedom of all citizens; and*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I, Chuck Bennett, Mayor of the City of Salem, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2021, as*

JUNETEENTH INDEPENDENCE DAY

and encourage residents to join in learning about and celebrating the contributions African Americans have made to our country, our state, and to our community.

DATED this fourteenth day of June, 2021.



Chuck Bennett
Mayor