



TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

July 1, 2020

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Michele Gardner, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Authorize the Mayor to send a letter requesting Governor Newsom establish Juneteenth as a State holiday

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Mayor to send the attached letter.

DISCUSSION

Councilmember Coler requested this item be added to the agenda for the Council's consideration. She drafted the attached letter to the Governor, requesting he declare Juneteenth, June 19th, as a State holiday.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/a

ATTACHMENT

Proposed letter

Letterhead

July 1, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Office of the Governor
California State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support to Establish Juneteenth as State Holiday

Dear Governor Newsom,

Thank you for issuing your proclamation declaring June 20, 2020, as “Juneteenth National Freedom Day: A Day of Observance” in the State of California. I am writing to request that your Administration work with the Legislature to establish Juneteenth as a State holiday. California has always been a leader in progressive, social and racial justice initiatives; taking this step in our State would further cement our leadership (and cause other states to follow), particularly as the fifth largest economy in the world. We know that Governor Northam in Virginia and Governor Cuomo in New York are proceeding forward with holidays in their respective states.

We know we must redouble our efforts to stamp out racism in our communities and institutions and ensure freedom for all. By establishing Juneteenth as a State holiday we can truly commemorate this emancipation and independence day and help us move forward in our efforts to finally achieve freedom for so many in California.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Renee Goddard, Mayor
Town of Fairfax

cc: Honorable Toni Atkins, Senate President pro Tempore
Honorable Anthony Rendon, Assembly Speaker
Senator Michael McGuire
Assembly Member Marc Levine