



PUBLIC COMMENTS

EMAIL SUBMISSIONS

1/13/2021

Virtual Regular Commission Meeting:

- **Item #26 - Juneteenth Item**



Florida Senate
Shevrin D. Jones

State Senator, District 35

District Office:

1965 South State Road 7
West Park, FL 33023-6733

Tallahassee Office:

404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300

Dear Pembroke Pines City Commission,

I wish to express my support for the recognition of Juneteenth as a holiday. Juneteenth commemorates the day in 1865 that federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people be freed. After the Civil War ended in the spring of 1865, General Granger's arrival in Galveston marked liberation for 250,000 enslaved people in Texas. Celebrations broke out among newly freed Black people, and this celebration became annually honored as Juneteenth. In December 1865, slavery in America was formally abolished with the adoption of the 13th Amendment.

Juneteenth honors the end to slavery in the United States and is considered the longest-running African American holiday in our history. This holiday represents a significant shift to the progress of our country, one that ensures reverence to a community of this country that continues to fight for parity. Thank you for your consideration and steadfast commitment to equality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SDJ", written in a cursive style.

Shevrin D. Jones
State Senate
District 35
SDJ/jrg

Education (Vice Chair) • Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services • Finance and Tax
Health Policy Transportation • Joint Administrative Procedures Committee

A Statement Of Support By Ram Tewari For a Commission Item 20 – 0820

My name is Ram Tewari. Residence 8860 NW 3 Street, Pembroke Pines, FL. 33024. I live in District 1 (Commissioner Tom Good's District). I am an alternate member of Diversity and Heritage Board. Because of the time conflict I am unable to attend the commission meeting today. Hence this email. This email is in support of Item 20 – 0820 of Commissioner Tom Good, being discussed today November 18, 2020.

This item " Juneteenth, as a city paid employee holiday, is timely and of utmost importance to the city. It is a right thing to do by my city, the City of Pembroke Pines (10th largest, home to over 170,000 residents, one of the best cities to live in America, the happiest city in South Florida, and an All-America City).

The City of Pembroke Pines has been a trail blazer and this is an excellent opportunity to lead the way. For example, in the recent past, the city recognized by naming peace way in the park for non – violent peace way by Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi, also known as Mahatma Gandhi, and Martin Luther King Jr.

Juneteenth, also known as Emancipation Day, Black Independence Day, or Jubilee Day, it celebrates the end of slavery after the Civil War is currently recognized by 47 states and the District of Columbia as a state holiday or observance. Local, state, and now Senators propose bill to make Juneteenth a federal holiday.

Therefore, I humbly request the city commission to discuss and approve Item 20 – 0820. This approval shall be matching with the mission of the Diversity and Heritage Advisory Board which is to promote awareness and to celebrate the rich Heritage and the vast Diversity of the City of Pembroke Pines, and make recommendations to the City Commission on diversity and equity strategies that strengthen connections among diverse community groups and with city government.

My contact information: phone 954 – 505 7454, email: saraimiran1@hotmail.com

Regards and best wishes,

Ram Tewari. Ph.D., PE, BCEE