

**University of Baltimore
Student Government Association
Legislation 2020-2021
Resolution #1**

Introduced by: University of Baltimore's Student Government Association

Sponsored by: Senator Ashlyn Woods, Senator Shane Chung, Senator John Lucas, Senator Emily Kamp, Senator Randolph Wells, Senator Joseph Hensgen, Senator Sandra Uche, Senator Joseph Ha

Written By: Ashlyn Woods and Daniel Khoshkepazi

RESOLUTION In support of declaring “Juneteenth” (June 19th) an official holiday for Students, University employees and Maryland State Employees

WHEREAS, On June 18, 2020, Governor Lawrence J. Hogan Jr. issued a proclamation recognizing June 19th as Juneteenth in Maryland to commemorate the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and celebrate the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery.

WHEREAS, the proclamation states, “Juneteenth has come to symbolize for many African Americans what fourth of July means to many Americans – Freedom. It serves as a historical milestone reminding Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery; and

WHEREAS, the proclamation further states, Juneteenth is one of a number of “Freedom Day” celebrations commemorating the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863... and, celebrates the notification of the last slaves in Galveston, Texas by General Gordon Granger on June 19th, 1865, almost two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipations proclamation; and throughout our nation, Juneteenth is celebrated annually as a historical and memorable tribute to our country's African American Heritage; and

WHEREAS, The University of Baltimore's Student Government Association (UBSGA) supports the statements expressed in Governor Hogan's Proclamation. UBSGA further supports the Governor's Proclamation that, “Maryland is proud to join our nation in honoring Juneteenth in an effort to promote and enhance the unity and spiritual strength that brought African Americans out of slavery and sustained their dignity and prosperity to the present day,

WHEREAS, UBSGA strongly believes that all UB, USM, USMSC and Maryland students and employees should benefit from the observance of Juneteenth (June 19th) as a holiday and as stated in Proclamation to “promote and enhance the unity and spiritual strength that brought African Americans out of slavery...”

WHEREAS, New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo has passed “Executive Order No. 204 Declaring Juneteenth a Holiday for New York State Employees” on June 17th and Board of Trustees of The City University of New York (CUNY) passed a resolution Declaring June 19, 2020 or “Juneteenth” a Holiday For All Employees of The City University of New York on June

18, 2020, which shows that recognizing Juneteenth as an official Holiday is possible; and

WHEREAS, Recognizing Juneteenth (June 19th) as a holiday will immensely diversify and change the culture of the traditional academic calendars in the United States of America and specifically the State of Maryland, that primarily recognize Euro-Centered holidays and historical events.

WHEREAS, this action will allow colleges and universities throughout Maryland to diversify their calendars by including traditions celebrated by historically oppressed Black communities. The recognition of Juneteenth will encourage colleges and universities to diversify policy making teams and strategies while also commemorating an important event in American history.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE ENACTED, That UBSGA recommends to The University of Baltimore, USM, USM Board of Regents and USMSC to recognize Juneteenth (June 19th) as an official holiday in their respective calendars, whereby university employees will be afforded the requisite benefits, allowances and excusals from work, as would otherwise be afforded to all such employees of our and all Universities on all other legal holidays,

LET IT BE ENACTED THAT, University of Baltimore Student Government suggests adding Juneteenth (June 19th) to the UB, USM, USMCS academic calendars as an official holiday whereby students will be afforded the requisite benefits, allowances, and excusals from class(es) as would otherwise be afforded to all such students of the university on all such other legal holidays,

LET IT BE ENACTED THAT, students at the University of Baltimore suggest Governor Larry Hogan of Maryland to consider following in the Governor of New York Andrew Cuomo steps and similarly pass an executive order declaring Juneteenth A Holiday for Maryland State Employees,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the University of Baltimore Student Government Association will send this resolution upon approval to the Chancellor, President Kurt Schmoke, USMSC, USM Board of regents and Governor Larry Hogan to consider this recommendation made by students of the University of Baltimore and recognize Juneteenth (June 19th) as a holiday for all students, universities and colleges and Maryland State employees.

Senate Vote: 8/8 in support of approving this resolution

Date: June 21, 2020

Vice-President: Kevin McHugh

Kevin McHugh
(signature)

President: Daniel Khoshkepazi

Daniel Khoshkepazi
(signature)



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

JUNETEENTH DAY

JUNE 19, 2020

WHEREAS, Juneteenth has come to symbolize for many African Americans what the fourth of July means for all Americans - Freedom. It serves as a historical milestone reminding Americans of the triumph of the human spirit over the cruelty of slavery; and

WHEREAS, Juneteenth is one of a number of "freedom day" celebrations commemorating the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation of 1863...and, celebrates the notification of the last slaves in Galveston, Texas by General Gordon Granger on June 19, 1865, almost two and a half years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation; and

WHEREAS, Throughout our nation Juneteenth is celebrated annually as a historical and memorable tribute to our country's African American Heritage; and

WHEREAS, Maryland is proud to join our nation in honoring Juneteenth in an effort to promote and enhance the unity and spiritual strength that brought African Americans out of slavery and sustained their dignity and prosperity to the present day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim JUNE 19, 2020 as JUNETEENTH DAY in Maryland and call upon the people of our state to join in this observance.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 19th day of June
Two Thousand and twenty

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Robert H. Lathrop
Lt. Governor

John C. Womack
Secretary of State