



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

7401 BALTIMORE AVENUE SUITE 201 COLLEGE PARK MD 20740 | COLLEGEPAKMD.GOV

MAYOR

Patrick L. Wojahn

pwojahn@collegeparkmd.gov
240.988.7763

DISTRICT 1

Fazlul Kabir

fkabir@collegeparkmd.gov
301.659.6295

Kate Kennedy

kkennedy@collegeparkmd.gov
202.400.1501

DISTRICT 2

Llatetra Brown Esters

lbesters@collegeparkmd.gov
240.636.3584

Susan Whitney

swhitney@collegeparkmd.gov
202.603.3634

DISTRICT 3

Stuart Adams

sadams@collegeparkmd.gov
301.364.4576

John B. Rigg

jrigg@collegeparkmd.gov
443.646.3503

DISTRICT 4

Maria E. Mackie

mmackie@collegeparkmd.gov
240.472.0681

Denise Mitchell

dmitchell@collegeparkmd.gov
301.852.8126

March 23, 2022

Senator Paul G. Pinsky
Chair of Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Support of HB 0227: State Government – Legal and Employee Holiday
– Juneteenth National Independence Day

Dear Chair Pinsky and Committee Members:

The City of College Park City Council voted unanimously on March 22, 2022, to support HB 0227 which would establish “Juneteenth National Independence Day” as a State legal and State employee holiday. This bill would follow on the actions of several Prince George’s County municipalities, as well as the county itself, in recognizing this landmark day for civil rights and equality.

Juneteenth commemorates a day when the abolition of slavery became a reality for many Americans. Although President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, freedom did not become a reality for many enslaved people for years. Juneteenth commemorates the day when Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas to enforce the emancipation of Texas’ slaves. This occasion started what is now the oldest known celebration commemorating the end of slavery in the United States.

Juneteenth marks the nation’s second Independence Day and should be recognized as a significant milestone in this country’s history. We appreciate the opportunity to comment and look forward to your support of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Patrick L. Wojahn
Mayor



CITY OF COLLEGE PARK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL

7401 BALTIMORE AVENUE SUITE 201 COLLEGE PARK MD 20740 | COLLEGEPAKMD.GOV

MAYOR

Patrick L. Wojahn

pwojahn@collegeparkmd.gov

240.988.7763

DISTRICT 1

Fazlul Kabir

fkabir@collegeparkmd.gov

301.659.6295

Kate Kennedy

kkennedy@collegeparkmd.gov

202.400.1501

DISTRICT 2

Llatetra Brown Esters

lbesters@collegeparkmd.gov

240.636.3584

Susan Whitney

swhitney@collegeparkmd.gov

202.603.3634

DISTRICT 3

Stuart Adams

sadams@collegeparkmd.gov

301.364.4576

John B. Rigg

jrigg@collegeparkmd.gov

443.646.3503

DISTRICT 4

Maria E. Mackie

mmackie@collegeparkmd.gov

240.472.0681

Denise Mitchell

dmitchell@collegeparkmd.gov

301.852.8126