

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_, SERIES 2022**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 39 OF THE LOUISVILLE METRO CODE OF ORDINANCES RECOGNIZING JUNE NINETEENTH AS "JUNETEENTH NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY."**

**SPONSORED BY: COUNCIL MEMBERS BOWENS, SHANKLIIN, DORSEY, PURVIS, ARTHUR, MCCRANEY, AND PRESIDENT JAMES**

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth is the oldest known holiday commemorating the final communication of the abolition of slavery in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, an inaugural Juneteenth Jubilee Commission, established February 1, 2021 by Mayoral Executive Order and including a broad cross section of community representation, successfully created a series of events to celebrate Juneteenth and educate residents regarding the profound significance of the occasion; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of the importance of establishing a framework through which community awareness of and participation in recognition of Juneteenth on an annual basis will broaden our mutual understandings of one another, Metro Council established through Ordinance No. 017, Series 2022 a permanent Juneteenth Jubilee Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to a 2021 Act of Congress passed with overwhelming bipartisan support, June 19 was designated as a US federal holiday to be known as Juneteenth National Independence Day; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2005, the Kentucky General Assembly, recognizing the significance of Juneteenth, enacted legislation declaring that the nineteenth of June each year shall be observed in Kentucky as "Juneteenth National Freedom Day."

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION I:** A new section of Chapter 39 of the Louisville Metro Code of Ordinances shall provide as follows:

**§ 39.XXX JUNETEENTH NATIONAL FREEDOM DAY**

The nineteenth of June each year shall be observed as "Juneteenth National Freedom Day."

**SECTION II:** This Ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and approval or otherwise becoming law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sonya Harward  
Metro Council Clerk

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David James  
President of the Council

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Greg Fischer  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approval Date

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

Michael J. O'Connell  
Jefferson County Attorney

By: \_\_\_\_\_