

SRES 159

A resolution recognizing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day and expressing the sense of the Senate that history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future.

Congress: 111 (2009–2011, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Introduced: May 21, 2009

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S5876)

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S5876) (May 21, 2009)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/111th-congress/senate-resolution/159>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Burris, Roland [D-IL]

Party: Democratic • **State:** IL • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brownback, Sam [R-KS]	R · KS		Jun 11, 2009
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 11, 2009
Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX]	R · TX		Jun 11, 2009
Sen. Levin, Carl [D-MI]	D · MI		Jun 11, 2009

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 21, 2009

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Civil Rights and Liberties, Minority Issues

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
111 HRES 546	Related bill	Jun 22, 2010: Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
111 SRES 559	Related bill	Jun 16, 2010: Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S5046-5047; text as passed Senate: CR S5046-5047; text of measure as introduced: CR S4996)
111 SRES 198	Related bill	Jun 19, 2009: Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S6856-6857; text as passed Senate: CR S6857; text of measure as introduced: CR S6850-6851)

Summary (as of May 21, 2009)

Recognizes the historical significance to the nation, and supports the continued celebration, of Juneteenth Independence Day (June 19, 1865, the day Union soldiers arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War had ended and that the enslaved African-Americans were free).

Expresses the sense of Congress that: (1) history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future; and (2) the celebration of the end of slavery is an important and enriching part of the history and heritage of the United States.

Actions Timeline

- **May 21, 2009:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 21, 2009:** Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S5876)