

HOUSE BILL 394

By Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 15,
relative to Juneteenth.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 15, Chapter 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

June 19 of each year is to be observed as "Juneteenth" to honor and recognize the celebration of the action of Major General Gordon Granger in Galveston, Texas, who on June 19, 1865, two and one-half years after the Emancipation Proclamation took effect, announced to the people of Texas, the last territory to receive news of the proclamation due to its geographic and strategic isolation, that "all slaves are free." This day is not a legal holiday as defined in § 15-1-101.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.