## Hello Committee Members

I am writing in full support of HB 5380 in the recognition of Juneteenth as a state holiday. It is most appropriate to finally recognize the date that acknowledges the end of enslaved peoples and the legacy of freed slaves and the individuals that fought to call for an end to slavery. This holiday is a recognition of the shared contribution to our state and country. In my opinion it is long over due, celebrating the freedom from slavery is an important step forward in the recognition of our country's history and culture and a proclamation that all citizens are free. Let's keep moving our state into the future with justice for all.

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We must cultivate our garden