

## MOTION

The Island Council of Saint Eustatius in its public session of today January 13, 2021.

### *Considering:*

- That the abolition of slavery took place on July 1<sup>st</sup> 1863;
- The enormous, devastating and psychological impact that it brought on our forefathers/ancestors;
- The abolition of slavery, yet today there are still traces of mental and psychological effects of slavery;
- The motion of the Island Council of May 19, 2017.
- That over a number of years there were many attempts made by organizations and persons, such as Ellis Lopes and the late Miriam C. Schmidt and Christine Flanders-Rooseberg, to have the date of July 1<sup>st</sup> declared as an official holiday, in reflection and commemoration of the liberation of our people;

### RESOLVES:

To declare July 1<sup>st</sup> effective immediately, as a public holiday.

To instruct the Executive Council to annul the Carnival holiday in exchange for Emancipation Day July 1<sup>st</sup>.

To instruct the Executive Council to ensure that the observance of this holiday take effect as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

To instruct the Executive Council to officially notify the private and public sector organizations of this decision;

To instruct the Executive Council to have the Government Information Service (GIS), the department of Culture in collaboration with other stakeholders to organize and coordinate an appropriate program annually in recognition of this day.

To bring this motion to the attention of the First and Second Chambers of the Dutch Parliament, The committee for Kingdom Relations, the Parliaments and Governments of Saint. Maarten, Curacao and Aruba, the Island Council and Executive Councils of Bonaire and Saba, The Executive Council of Saint Eustatius and the Minister and State Secretary of Kingdom Relations.

And goes over to the order of the day.

