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MEMORANDUM
HR# 20-21

June 18, 2021

TO: All Agencies

FROM: Frank Richardson, Interim Administrator
Division of Human Resource Management

SUBJECT: JUNETEENTH FEDERAL HOLIDAY

This week, Congress and President Biden established June 19 as Juneteenth National Independence Day, a U.S. federal holiday that commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. Since June 19 falls on a Saturday this year, under federal law, the federal government is observing this new holiday on Friday, June 18.

Nevada state law does not allow the Governor to unilaterally have this new federal holiday observed on a weekday when it falls on a weekend date, therefore Juneteenth will not be observed as a statewide holiday today, Friday, June 18, 2021. The Governor has expressed intent to work with state lawmakers to amend state law to celebrate and observe Juneteenth as a weekday statewide holiday going forward.

As such, June 18, 2021, is not a holiday for state employees with respect to closure of state offices, paid holiday off, or holiday premium pay.

For those noting that some local governments in Nevada have declared today a holiday with government office closures, those local governments have different authority based on their local ordinances and/or may have specific provisions in their collective bargaining agreements with their employees.