

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 56

Approved February 11, 2022

WHEREAS, In 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, considered the "Father of Black History", launched the celebration of Negro History Week; and

WHEREAS, In 1976, at the United States Bicentennial celebration, President Gerald Ford recognized the entire month of February as Black History Month, urging American citizens to "seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history"; and

WHEREAS, During the month of February, observances are held to increase public awareness and knowledge of the importance of black history in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-10.2 of the Providence Code of Ordinances recognizes February as Black History Month in perpetuity to honor the innumerable contributions of African-Americans to Providence, Rhode Island, and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month serves as a reminder of all those who fought and continue to fight for social justice, civil rights, and equity; and

WHEREAS, The lasting impacts of past racist practices continue to be felt by African-Americans in their daily lives through education, healthcare, criminal justice, economic and housing disparities; and

WHEREAS, While Black History Month serves as a reminder of the struggle for civil rights, it also serves as a call to action to rectify the many lasting inequities that continue to persist, and are at times perpetuated, through various institutional practices.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council recognizes and celebrates February 2022 as Black History Month and further commits to tackling the institutional challenges faced by African-Americans in Providence, Rhode Island, and the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, The City Council encourages the celebration of Black History Month throughout the City of Providence as an opportunity to learn and reflect on the history of the United States, while remaining hopeful and confident about the future.

IN CITY COUNCIL
FEB 03 2022
READ AND PASSED

JOHN J. IGLIOZZI, PRESIDENT

Tina L. Mastromarino
CLERK

ACTING

I HEREBY APPROVE

Mayor

Date: 2/11/22