

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

No. 60

Approved February 14, 2025

WHEREAS, Black history is a foundational part of world history, with African civilizations pioneering advancements in art, science, governance, and culture long before the transatlantic slave trade disrupted the continent; and

WHEREAS, The story of Black Americans is one of resilience, innovation, and profound contributions, despite centuries of oppression, from the forced migration of enslaved Africans to the fight for civil rights and ongoing struggles for justice today; and

WHEREAS, Providence has long been shaped by the contributions of Black Rhode Islanders, from the soldiers of the 1st Rhode Island Regiment in the Revolutionary War to contemporary leaders in business, government, activism, and the arts; and

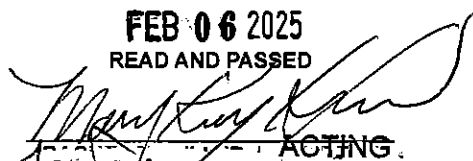
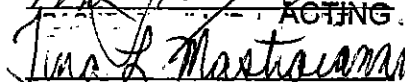
WHEREAS, The Providence City Council has recognized Black History Month in perpetuity as an opportunity to celebrate, reflect, and commit to addressing ongoing racial disparities in education, housing, healthcare, and economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans have served in every military conflict in U.S. history, including the Tuskegee Airmen of World War II, who overcame systemic racism to protect American forces, yet their contributions are now at risk of being erased from military education; and

WHEREAS, Across the nation, efforts to diminish or distort Black history whether through limiting its teaching in schools or undermining the legacy of Black veterans threaten our collective understanding of the past and the progress that has been made; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month serves not only as a commemoration of past achievements but also as a call to action, ensuring that history is accurately preserved and that Black communities continue to thrive.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Providence City Council formally recognizes February as Black History Month, honors the contributions of Black Rhode Islanders, and reaffirms its commitment to justice, equity, and the full acknowledgment of Black history in Providence and beyond.

IN CITY COUNCIL
FEB 06 2025
READ AND PASSED

ACTING

CLERK

I HEREBY APPROVE.


Mayor

Date: 2/14/25