

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, Arroyo, Baker, Bok, Breadon, Fernandes Anderson, Flaherty, Flynn, Lara, Mejia, Murphy and Worrell



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY AS HAITIAN HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Boston is home to the third largest Haitian diaspora in the United States and became the first city to celebrate May as Haitian Heritage Month in 1998; *and*

WHEREAS, Haiti, the only republic to rise from a successful slave rebellion, inspires pride, liberation, solidarity, and self-reliance around the globe for oppressed people; *and*

WHEREAS, This month-long celebration grew from the Haitian Flag Day on May 18, a nationally-recognized day and the most celebrated Haitian holiday in Haiti, the US, and throughout the diaspora; *and*

WHEREAS, Haitian Flag Day is commemorated in many ways, including on the Boston City Council and with a parade along Blue Hill Avenue through Dorchester and Mattapan; *and*

WHEREAS, Haitian Heritage Month also includes the birthday of Toussaint Louverture, the Haitian general and leader of the Haitian Revolution, who was born on May 20, 1743; *and*

WHEREAS, The last Sunday of May is commemorated in Haiti as Mother's Day; *and*

WHEREAS, The Haitian community in Boston is an active one, with many community organizations including Haitian Americans United, Association of Haitian Women in Boston, and the Haitian Nurses Association (HNA), as well as over 100 small businesses and the Boston Haitian Reporter; *and*

WHEREAS, This month is an opportunity to celebrate the rich culture, distinctive art, food, and important traditions of Haitian people; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: The Boston City Council, in honor of the history, heritage, and culture of Haitians and Haitians Americans, recognize May 2022 as Haitian Heritage Month.

Filed in Council: May 4, 2022