

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BRIAN WORRELL, RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE,
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CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time to honor and celebrate the rich heritage, culture, and contributions of African Americans to our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, Throughout history, African Americans in Boston have played pivotal roles in shaping the city's identity, culture, and progress, contributing to its diversity, resilience, and vibrancy; and

WHEREAS, Boston's Black population is uniquely diverse, including Haitians, Afro-Latinos, United States Freedmen, Nigerians, Caribbean Islanders, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Trailblazers such as Rebecca Lee Crumpler, Macon Bolling Allen, William Wells Brown, Robert Morris, and George Lewis Ruffin shattered barriers and pioneered paths of excellence in their respective fields, epitomizing exceptional talent, determination, and leadership, while contributing significantly to the advancement of society; and

WHEREAS, The enduring legacies of these luminaries, coupled with the historic founding of Boston's African Lodge Number 459 by Prince Hall, stand as pivotal milestones in African American history, underscoring the tenacity, creativity, and communal solidarity that continue to inspire and empower generations across Boston and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Inextricably woven into Boston's cultural tapestry are the monumental contributions of iconic figures such as Philis Wheatley, the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Melnea Cass, Sarah-Ann Shaw, the Rev. Michael E. Haynes, William H. Lewis, Dr. Ruth Batson, and Crispus Attucks, who dedicated their lives to championing racial equity, social justice, and the pursuit of a more equitable society for all; and

WHEREAS, The resonating impact of Boston's Black leaders extends to the realm of athletics, with luminaries like Willie O'Ree, Chuck Cooper, and Bill Russell transcending sports to champion diversity, inclusion, and social progress both on and off the field, leaving an indelible mark on Boston's sporting landscape and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month serves as an invaluable opportunity to reflect on the triumphs, struggles, and enduring contributions of African Americans throughout history, honoring their resilience, fortitude, and unwavering commitment to the pursuit of equity and justice; and

WHEREAS, The City of Boston remains steadfast in its commitment to honoring and preserving the rich legacy of African American heritage, fostering inclusivity, diversity, and mutual understanding among all residents; **NOW, THEREFORE
BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council proudly proclaims the month of February as Black History Month in the City of Boston, calling upon all residents to join in commemorating and celebrating the enduring contributions of African Americans to our city's past, present, and future.

Filed on: February 7, 2025