Offered by City Councilor Julia Mejia, Louijeune, Fernandes Andreson, Baker, Arroyo, Bok, Breadon, Coletta, Lara, Murphy, Worrell and Flynn



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 30 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR WOMEN OF AFRICAN DESCENT ON JULY 25TH 2022 IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

- *WHEREAS*, Throughout these years Women from African descent have rebuilt and built history. July 25th is not just another day, it is a day of reflection, analysis of the paths traveled and achievements made, especially by organizations like The Network of Afro-Latin American, Afro-Caribbean and Diaspora Women, as well as Encuentro Diaspora Afro; *and*
- *WHEREAS*, It is a day of celebration for all women, for those who inspire, lead, and those who are no longer on this plane, to celebrate the lives of those who continue to fight against racism and fight in search of equal rights with fairer and more democratic societies that support all women; *and*
- *WHEREAS*, 500 years of systematic abuse of Black and Indigenous people, 500 years of the largest slave trade and trafficking; a crime against humanity, violations of people and of history that even today are perpetuated in social, economic, and cultural rights, in sexual and reproductive rights, and in violation of our right to simply be; *and*
- WHEREAS,
 Women from African descent continue to experience situations of poverty, extreme technological and educational exclusion, with less access to decent employment and health care. During the pandemic this diaspora experienced disparities in access to vaccines and prevention of illness. Systemic racism is an active and pervasive reality, and without intervention, it continues to fester in the region; and
- *WHEREAS,* On the International Day of Afro-descendant Women, ancestors are remembered more than ever and now with the certainty that this action promoted by the City of Boston contributes to justice, equality and recognition, because 101 more years is too long to wait for this change; *and*
- *WHEREAS*, This 30th anniversary is recognized to help create the space for the articulation of Afro-descendant women, for the construction of democratic, equitable, and just multicultural societies, which are free of racism, racial discrimination, sexism and exclusion. From this space,

Afro-descendant women fight for collective rights and in many places across the globe, progress has been made thanks to their struggles; *and*

WHEREAS, On July 25th, the International Day for Women of African Descent, these foundations of solidarity, inclusivity, and prosperity drive a future where all people enjoy their rights, where every African descendent has the certainty of living fully, with dignity and with all their rights fulfilled; *NOW THEREFORE BE IT*

RESOLVED,

That the Boston City Council recognized July 25th 2022 as the 30th Anniversary of the International Day for Women of African Descent.

Filed in Council: July 7, 2022