

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 22

Reps. O'Neal, Breen, Fitzgerald, Glanville, Linting, MacDonell, Morgan, Myers-Phillips, Paiz, Rheingans, Rogers, Schuette, Snyder, Weiss, Wilson, Witwer, Xiong and Young offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare February 2025 as Black History Month
2 in the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, The origins of Black History Month began in 1915
4 after the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution
5 abolished slavery in the United States. Since 1976, every U.S.
6 President has adopted the month of February as Black History Month,
7 an annual celebration of African-American achievements and roles in
8 our history; and

9 Whereas, As a result of the civil rights movement and a
10 growing awareness of black identity, Black History Month is a time
11 to reflect on the burdens of racial prejudice and explore,

1 understand and appreciate the identities and cultures across and
2 within the African diaspora; and

3 Whereas, We pay tribute to Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who
4 organized a national Negro History Week as an initiative to bring
5 national attention to the contributions of black people throughout
6 American history, evolving into a month-long celebration of black
7 progress and power; and

8 Whereas, President Gerald R. Ford officially recognized Black
9 History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to "seize the
10 opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of
11 black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history";
12 and

13 Whereas, Michigan recognizes the injustices that African
14 Americans have endured and commends the African-American community
15 for the continuous pursuit of overcoming those injustices while
16 changing the course and nature of history. We honor the prominent
17 leaders and activists who have paved the way for equality and
18 justice; now, therefore, be it

19 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
20 this legislative body declare February 2025 as Black History Month
21 in the state of Michigan; and be it further

22 Resolved, That we honor the contributions and sacrifices made
23 toward building pride in black history and educating all Americans;
24 and be it further

25 Resolved, That we join other organizations throughout the
26 state of Michigan and this country to use this occasion to raise
27 awareness about the hardships African-Americans have endured,
28 celebrate the milestones achieved and to continue the unrelenting
29 pursuit of equality and justice for all.