



WHEREAS, February is *Black History Month* and is recognized throughout the United States as an opportunity to celebrate the historical and present achievements and contributions made by African-Americans to the economic, cultural and political development of our great Country, the State of North Carolina and our local communities; and,

WHEREAS, Black History Month's early origins began in February 1926, when "Negro History Week" was established by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, a Harvard scholar and a son of former slaves. Dr. Woodson launched an initiative to encourage the study of black history and the African-American experience in the United States. He chose February because it marked the birthdays of President Abraham Lincoln and the American abolitionist Frederick Douglass; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Woodson's legacy influenced the eventual shift from "Negro History Week" to a month-long celebration later to be established in the mid 1970's and celebrated thereafter as "Black History Month"; and,

WHEREAS, the national theme for Black History Month 2019 "*Black Migrations*" equally lends itself to the exploration of the century's later decades from spatial and social perspectives, with attention to "new" African Americans because of the burgeoning African and Caribbean population in the US; Northern African Americans' return to the South; racial suburbanization; inner-city hyperghettoization; health and environment; civil rights and protest activism; electoral politics; mass incarceration; and dynamic cultural production.

WHEREAS, this year marks the 55th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act, which was first proposed by President John F. Kennedy in 1963, and eventually signed into law during the height of the American Civil Rights Movement on July 2, 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson. The legislation prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex or national origin and paved the way for future anti-discrimination legislation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners, in commemoration of this nationwide celebration, hereby proclaims February 2019 as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in recognition of the many contributions of African-Americans to Gaston County, North Carolina and the Nation at large, and the ongoing pursuit of equality and human rights for all citizens.

Tracy L. Philbeck, Chairman

Chad Brown, Vice-Chairman

Allen R. Fraley

Jack B. Brown

Tom Keigher

Bob Hovis

Ronald E. Worley

To be Adopted the 22nd Day of January 2019



Gaston County

Gaston County
Board of Commissioners
www.gastongov.com

Board of Commissioners Board Action

File #: 18-488

Commissioner Keigher - BOC - Proclamation - To Proclaim the Month of February 2019 as **Black History Month** in Gaston County

STAFF CONTACT

Donna Buff - Clerk to the Board - 704-866-3196

BACKGROUND

ATTACHMENTS

Proclamation

DO NOT TYPE BELOW THIS LINE

I, Donna S. Buff, Clerk to the County Commission, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of action taken by the Board of Commissioners as follows:

NO.	DATE	M1	M2	CBrown	JBrown	AFaley	BHovis	TKeigher	TPhillips	HYonker	Vote
2019-003	01/22/2019	JB	CB	A	A	A	AB	A	A	A	U

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A=AYE, N=NAY, AB=ABSENT, ABS=ABSTAIN, U=UNANIMOUS