

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 292745

ADOPTED ON FEB 07 2000

WHEREAS, historically, African-Americans have shown great fortitude and leadership, using courage and conviction to rise above oppression; and

WHEREAS, without a knowledge of the rich, diverse history and individual experiences and achievements of Black Americans, stereotypes will continue to exist; and

WHEREAS, for many years the second week of February (chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln) has been celebrated by black people in the United States. In 1976, as part of the nation's Bicentennial, the celebration was expanded and became established as Black History Month, and is now celebrated all over North America; and

WHEREAS, African-Americans have made invaluable contributions to the spiritual character, economic prosperity and cultural development of our nation throughout their history, and the continued leadership and accomplishments of African-Americans inspire excellence in future generations; and

WHEREAS, San Diego is fortunate to have strong, capable African-American leadership in important history making positions including business, transportation, government, religion, law and education; and

WHEREAS, this month long celebration will be observed in San Diego by schools, churches, libraries, clubs and organizations wishing to draw attention to the contributions of African-Americans; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of San Diego, that this Council, for and on behalf of the people of San Diego, does hereby proclaim February 2000, to be "**Black History Month**" in San Diego in recognition of experiences, accomplishments and contributions of African Americans.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By Stuart H. Swett
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Deputy City Attorney

SHS:jrl
02/02/2000
Or.Dept:Mayor
R-2000-890
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