

Proclamation

Board of Commissioners for Washington County

A PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2022

WHEREAS, the Washington County Board of Commissioners takes pride in recognizing February 2022 as Black History Month, celebrating the many notable contributions that people of African descent have made to our country; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that we have never fully lived up to the founding ideals of this country of all people being created equal; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the diversity of Black people in Washington County, Oregon, our nation and the Black diaspora, whether they self-identify as African, African-American, Afro-Latino, Afro-Caribbean, or Black; and

WHEREAS, we recognize this year's Black History Month theme of "Black Health and Wellness"; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge systemic racism has led to African Americans being more likely to die at an early age from all causes, more commonly misdiagnosed, and impacted by health inequities throughout the health care system that have traumatized the Black community; and

WHEREAS, we now celebrate Black health and wellness, including the legacy of Black scholars, midwives, nurses, doctors, and practitioners of not only Western medicine, but all the other indigenous ways of promoting health and healing throughout the Black diaspora; and

WHEREAS, we uplift our community leaders, Black business owners, professionals and others who promote wellbeing and knowledge throughout the many facets of the Black community as part of our whole inclusive community; and

WHEREAS, each Black individual has a unique mind, body and soul, which deserves to be healthy, well, and treated with respect and empathy; and

WHEREAS, recent deplorable events have re-elevated the mandate of the Black struggle and underscore the need for more than raised voices to bring about the lasting institutional and societal change that is desperately needed in our country; and

WHEREAS, we encourage all people to recognize and confront these issues by standing in the gap at every opportunity and eliminating barriers with fearlessness and determination to empower Black people to promote and protect their health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, today, we celebrate and affirm the importance of Black Health and Wellness to our community, throughout our state and the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Washington County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim February 1st – February 28th, 2022, as Black History Month and calls upon the people of Washington County to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities and reflections and to continue our efforts to create a world that is more just, equitable and prosperous for all.





Kathryn Harrington, Washington County Board Chair



Recording Secretary

22-30

Minute Order