UNOFFICIAL COPY 17 RS BR 1290

1	A RESOLUTION recognizing February as Black History Month.
2	WHEREAS, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who worked in the Kentucky coal mines as a
3	child and was the son of former slaves, enrolled in high school at the age of 20 and went
4	on to graduate from Berea College with a bachelor's degree, received his master's degree
5	from the University of Chicago, and earned a Ph.D. from Harvard University where he
6	was one of the first scholars to study African-American history; and
7	WHEREAS, in 1926, Dr. Woodson proposed and launched a weeklong celebration
8	of the individuals and occasions having a significant impact on African-American history
9	in America, and has since been known as the "Father of Black History"; and
10	WHEREAS, Dr. Woodson chose the month of February to conduct this
11	commemoration because the birthdays of two men whose actions have significantly
12	affected African-Americans in this country are in February – namely Frederick Douglass,
13	the gifted orator, writer, and statesman who was a tireless advocate of the anti-slavery
14	movement, and Abraham Lincoln, a native son of Kentucky who signed the Emancipation
15	Proclamation and is considered to be one of America's greatest presidents; and
16	WHEREAS, in 1976, the commemoration was extended from a weeklong event to
17	the entire month of February; and
18	WHEREAS, during the month of February 2017, across the United States of
19	America and this great Commonwealth, observances are held to increase public
20	awareness of the importance of black history and the contributions that African-
21	Americans have made toward their country; and
22	WHEREAS, not only during the month of February 2017, but throughout the
23	remainder of the year, it is important that we, as brethren, reach out to one another to
24	understand our fellow man in a peaceful and loving way; and
25	WHEREAS, the citizens of this great Commonwealth should recommit themselves
26	to an ideal America where equality and justice will always prevail, and to the principles
27	of love, wisdom, and compassion toward one another;

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- 1 NOW, THEREFORE,
- 2 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the
- 3 Commonwealth of Kentucky:
- 4 → Section 1. The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky
- 5 recognizes the month of February as Black History Month, and urges that the citizens of
- 6 this Commonwealth be mindful of the history, the culture, and the profound contributions
- 7 African-Americans have made.
- Section 2. The Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to transmit a
- 9 copy of this Resolution to Representative Attica Scott.