

STATE OF OHIO  
**Executive Department**

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

*Columbus*

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, in 1926, Carter G. Woodson, noted historian and the “Father of Black History Month,” announced *Negro History Week* in America; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1976, Negro History Week was expanded to a month when President Gerald Ford designated February as *Black History Month*; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2013, Black History Month is celebrating its 37<sup>th</sup> year, with the theme of “At the Crossroads of Freedom and Equality: The Emancipation Proclamation and the March on Washington,” in recognition of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the historic March on Washington led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

**WHEREAS**, these two historic events occurred 100 years apart, yet they remain fresh in the minds and hearts of all Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, Black History Month is a time for Ohioans to remember the lessons and teachings of those like Dr. King and President Lincoln who helped form and reform our nation, took a stance against prejudice to live lives of dignity and opportunity, helped bring the plight of African Americans to the attention of the nation and world, advanced the important cause of civil rights, and strengthened families and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the 2012 Census African Americans make up the largest minority group in Ohio, constituting 12.2% of the state’s population; and

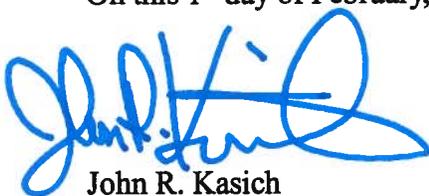
**WHEREAS**, as a result of determination, hard work, intelligence, and perseverance, African Americans have made valuable and lasting contributions to Ohio, the United States of America, and the world. Achieving exceptional success in all aspects of society including business, education, politics, science, and the arts, and having played significant roles in the history of Ohio’s economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, John R. Kasich, Governor of the State of Ohio**, do hereby recognize February 2013 as

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

throughout Ohio and I encourage all Ohioans to reflect on past successes and challenges of African Americans and to participate in local events and observances highlighting this proud history. We all have a duty to keep Dr. King’s dream alive so that, “One day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: We hold these truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal.”

On this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2013;



John R. Kasich  
Governor

