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, Black History Month is celebrating its 39th year with the theme of "A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture;" and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time of remembering and celebrating African American history, culture and the experiences of our nation's African American community; and

WHEREAS, significant events of black history have shaped our nation including the passage of the Emancipation Proclamation in 1863, the Civil Rights Movement, the passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the Civil Rights Act of 1968- all of which helped move our country toward a more equal and just society; and

WHEREAS, Ohio has proudly been called home by many influential African Americans including Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens, Pulitzer and Nobel Prize winning author Toni Morrison and civil rights activist Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth as well as home to Wilberforce University, the nation's oldest private, historically black university; and
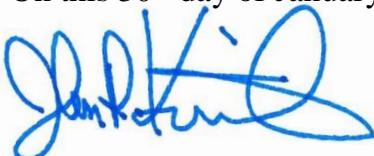
WHEREAS, today, we continue to salute the positive contributions and achievements of African Americans throughout our nation and the state of Ohio.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, John R. Kasich and Mary Taylor, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize February 2015 as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

throughout Ohio and we encourage all Ohioans to reflect on the past challenges and successes of African Americans as well as their significant contributions to our state and nation. May we strive to improve society so that we may live up to the ideals of freedom, justice and equality.

On this 30th day of January 2015;

John R. Kasich
Governor

Mary Taylor
Lieutenant Governor