

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date: 2-3-98

Submitted by: Assemblymembers BEGICH, Abney,
Bell, Carlson, Clementson, Kendall, Meyer, Murdy,
Von Gemmingen, Wohlforth, and Wuerch

Prepared by: Assembly Office

For Reading: February 3, 1998

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR No. 98- 35

A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY RECOGNIZING AND PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY
1998 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

WHEREAS, African Americans have played important roles in America's history, from making important inventions and discoveries, creating great works of art, to excelling in science, medicine, education, religion, law, politics, music, sports, and other fields of endeavor; and

WHEREAS, in the view of Carter Woodson, who created and promoted Black History Week during the 1920's, the knowledge and dissemination of African history would, "besides building self-esteem among blacks, help eliminate prejudice among whites"; and he aimed "to inculcate in the mind of the youth of African blood an appreciation of what their race has thought and felt and done."; and

WHEREAS, the month of February - the birth month of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln - has been chosen as Black History Month to bear witness to the progress, richness and diversity of African American achievement; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month allows all people an opportunity to understand, enjoy, appreciate, and reflect on the history, achievements, culture, traditions, and teachings of African Americans who have contributed immensely to our community, state, nation, and world; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month also reaffirms the traditional American commitment to equity of access to equality of economic opportunity, equity to access to "color blind" justice, equity of access to fair and impartial reportorial and editorial treatment and sound media, and equity of access to equality of educational opportunity for Americans of all colors, creeds, and culture.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Anchorage Municipal Assembly resolves:

Section 1: That the Assembly recognizes and proclaims February 1998 as

"Black History Month"

Section 2: That the Assembly encourages all Anchorage citizens to participate in our local Black History Month celebration, as we all join together in the spirit of love of country, respect for American democratic principles, and commitment to solidarity and equal opportunity for all Americans.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Municipal Assembly this 3rd day of February 1998.

Chair

ATTEST:

Lepane Ferguson
Municipal Clerk