



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-6113/1
CMH:amn

2021 SENATE RESOLUTION 13

February 18, 2022 - Introduced by Senators BRADLEY, COWLES, JACQUE and KOOYENGA. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming February 2022 as Black History Month.

2 Whereas, Black History Month provides a deliberate opportunity to reflect on
3 the common humanity underlying all people and to raise awareness and foster
4 respect for the heritage and contributions of people of African descent; and

5 Whereas, the existence of Africans in North America can be traced back to 1525,
6 and through 1866 the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade is estimated to have ensnared
7 more than 12 million African people, with an estimated 10 million surviving the
8 unconscionable Middle Passage, landing in North America, the Caribbean, and
9 South America; and

10 Whereas, Wisconsin history first references African descendants in a speech
11 given in 1725 by a chief of the Illinois Indians, in which he said “a negro belonging
12 to Monsieur de Boisbriant” at Green Bay; and

13 Whereas, the United States has recognized Black history annually since
14 February 12, 1926, first as “Negro History Week” and later as “Black History Month,”

1 by noted Harvard scholar and historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson, celebrating the
2 ethnic and racial diversity that enriches and strengthens our nation; and

3 Whereas, both enslaved and free people of African descent have participated in
4 every aspect of America's effort to secure, protect, and advance the cause of freedom
5 and civil rights and have stories that are an inspiration to all citizens, that reflect
6 the triumph of the human spirit and offer the hopes of everyday people to rise above
7 both prejudice and circumstance and to build lives of dignity; and

8 Whereas, Black History Month gives Wisconsinites an occasion to recognize the
9 significant influence people of African heritage have made, and continue to make, in
10 the areas of medicine, art, politics, human rights, education, sports, and economic
11 development; now, therefore, be it

12 ***Resolved by the senate, That*** the Wisconsin Senate proclaims February 2022
13 as Black History Month and extends appreciation to the Wisconsinites of African
14 descent for their contributions to the state of Wisconsin and the country and their
15 fellow citizens.

16 (END)