

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, African-American history is the chronicle of men and women who prevailed with extraordinary courage and faith during their struggles for freedom and equality; and

WHEREAS, in 1926, Carter G. Woodson and the organization he founded, the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, initiated Black History Week; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, Black History Week was expanded to a full month to commemorate the oftentimes not fully recognized achievements and contributions made by African Americans to our economic, cultural, spiritual, and political development; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Black History Month provides an opportunity for our schools, institutions of higher learning, communities, state, and nation to gain a deeper understanding and knowledge of the many contributions of African Americans to this country; and

WHEREAS, generations of African-Americans have served our nation and the Palmetto State in positions of distinction, including doctors and scientists, teachers and factory workers, entertainers and athletes, and members of the military and elected officials, positively impacting our economic well-being and our rich cultural heritage.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 2020 as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to celebrate the diverse heritage and culture of African-Americans.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry McMaster".

HENRY MCMASTER
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA