

EATON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

February 17, 2021

**RESOLUTION TO PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 2021 AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH
IN EATON COUNTY**

Introduced by Chairman Jeremy Whittum

Commissioner Whittum moved the approval of the following resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Haskell.

WHEREAS, the Eaton County Board of Commissioners takes pride in recognizing February 2021 as Black History Month. Celebrating the many notable contributions people of African descent have invested to our country;

WHEREAS, “Negro History Week” was first established in 1926 by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), under the leadership of Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the famed African American historian known as the “Father of Black History”; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, ASALH expanded the celebration of Black History Week to a month-long celebration of Black History; and

WHEREAS, Congress passed Public Law 99-244 designating February 1986 as the sixtieth annual public and private salute to Black History observed as “National Black (Afro-American) History Month;” and

WHEREAS, Crispus Attucks, an American of African and Native decent, was the first casualty of America’s quest for independence. Crispus Attucks was martyred in the Boston Massacre, a conflict that sparked resentment which led to the Revolutionary War, where 9,000 Black Patriots served with dignity and honor; and

WHEREAS, Diversity of Black people is celebrated, whether they self-identify as African, African-American or Black; and

WHEREAS, we recognize this year’s theme of “The Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity;” and

WHEREAS, we revere the unifying bonds within The Black Family despite challenges placed on those ties by persistent and abundant racial disparities in our society, including the criminal justice system, healthcare, education, economic opportunity, and many other areas affecting the Black community; and

WHEREAS, we now hereby recognize and celebrate all identities of The Black Family structure, whether it is a traditional family unit, or a purposefully created group of individuals formed from shared compassion, love, support, ideas, and beliefs; and

WHEREAS, each Black Family has a unique and interesting American story which, although some may not fully understand, we as Americans should listen and show we care, treating each with respect and empathy; and

WHEREAS, today, we celebrate and affirm the contributions of The Black Family to our Communities, throughout our state and our nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Eaton County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim February 2021, as Black History Month in Eaton County.

Roll call vote. Ayes: Tim Barnes, Blake Mulder, Terrance Augustine, Brandon Haskell, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Jane M. Whitacre, Mark Mudry, Joseph Brehler, Dairus Reynnet, Wayne Ridge, Brian Lautzenheiser, Jim Mott, Jeremy Whittum, Barbara Rogers. Nays: Brian Droscha. Carried.