

PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, the origins of Black History Month, also recognized locally as Black Liberation Month, can be traced back to 1915 when historian and author Dr. Carter G. Woodson established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History and once remarked, "Real education means to inspire people to live more abundantly, to learn to begin with life as they find it and make it better;" and

WHEREAS, Black History Month serves as a reminder of the struggles and triumphs of diverse identities represented within the African diasporas throughout history, including their resilience in the face of oppression, their pursuit of civil rights and social justice, and their leadership in various endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the observance of Black History Month provides a valuable opportunity for all residents to celebrate the rich heritage, remarkable achievements, and enduring contributions of African Americans to our community and nation; and

WHEREAS, the history of Black Americans in the United States is deeply intertwined with the nation's journey towards liberty, justice, and equality; and

WHEREAS, Black Americans have played an integral role in shaping the cultural, economic, political, and social landscape, contributing significantly to its progress and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, by recognizing and honoring the legacy of Black Americans, we reaffirm our commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equity, and strive to create opportunities where everyone can thrive and succeed; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to educate ourselves and future generations about the history and experiences of African Americans, fostering understanding, empathy, and unity within our community; and

WHEREAS, the County of Humboldt is firmly committed to valuing diversity and holds the belief that equity, respect, and justice are fundamental to our identity, democracy, and the overall well-being of our society; and

WHEREAS, the County of Humboldt hereby commits to identifying and eliminating institutional racism by taking appropriate action to eradicate racial bias within the systems in Humboldt County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors further encourages residents to engage in dialogue, reflection, and action to address systemic racism, inequality, and injustice, and to work towards building a more just and equitable society for all.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Humboldt hereby declares the month of February 2025 as Black History Month in Humboldt, and encourages all residents to participate in commemorative events, educational activities, and community initiatives that celebrate the heritage and contributions of African Americans.

Dated: February 11, 2025

Michelle Bushnell, Chair

