

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Black History Month is celebrated throughout the United States of America during the month of February; and

WHEREAS, recognition began in 1926 as a program to encourage the study of African American history to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass, and was officially expanded to the entire month of February by President Gerald Ford in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Black History Month is testament to generations of Africans brought to America and enslaved who, in the face of daily adversity and galvanized by the promise of freedom, strived for equality by exercising strength, endurance, enterprise, and patriotism, while often times being denied the promises guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the actions of African Americans are central in the formation of American society, accomplishing civic, economic, professional, medical, scientific, military, and artistic excellence, and the collective actions of Black Americans have inspired people of all backgrounds to pursue noble causes and dreams; and

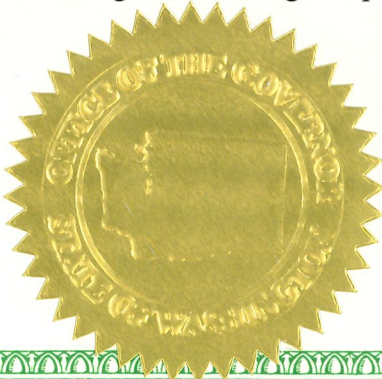
WHEREAS, Black History Month is a time to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, because of the disparities that continue to plague our society, Black History Month echoes the call for equality to future generations and is essential to the formation of a more perfect Union;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim February 2022 as

Black History Month

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.



Signed this 25th day of January 2022

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jay Inslee".

Governor Jay Inslee