

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. CON. RES. 335

Recognizing the significance of Black History Month and the contributions of Black Americans as a significant part of the history, progress, and heritage of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2002

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing the significance of Black History Month and the contributions of Black Americans as a significant part of the history, progress, and heritage of the United States.

Whereas the first Black Americans were brought to these shores as early as the 17th century;

Whereas these first Black Americans and subsequent generations were enslaved and brought to America against their free will;

Whereas, despite this enslavement, early Black Americans made significant contributions to the economic, educational, political, artistic, literary, scientific, and technological advancement of the United States;

Whereas many of these enslaved Black Americans fought and died in the Revolutionary War and the Civil War;

Whereas, despite official and social discrimination, subsequent generations of Black Americans have continued to build on these early contributions and continue to make important advancements in politics, business, culture, education, art, literature, science, and technology;

Whereas Black Americans have worked consistently and arduously to strengthen the Constitutional values of freedom, liberty, and equality;

Whereas Black Americans have disproportionately contributed to protecting the Nation's security and freedom through service in the Armed Forces;

Whereas Black Americans have built many of the Nation's strongest faith-based institutions which serve the Nation's poorest citizens, strengthen the Nation's moral core, and uplift its spirit; and

Whereas the month of February is officially celebrated as Black History Month, which dates back to 1926, when Dr. Carter G. Woodson set aside a special period of time in February to recognize the heritage and achievements of Black Americans: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That—*

3 (1) Congress recognizes the significance of
4 Black History Month, an important time to recog-
5 nize the contributions of Black Americans in the Na-
6 tion's history, and encourages the continued celebra-
7 tion of this month to provide an opportunity for all

1 people of the United States to learn more about the
2 past and to better understand the experiences that
3 have shaped the Nation; and

4 (2) it is the sense of Congress that—

5 (A) the contributions of Black Americans
6 are a significant part of the history, progress,
7 and heritage of the United States; and

8 (B) the ethnic and racial diversity of the
9 United States enriches and strengthens the Na-
10 tion.

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