

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 75

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 1997

By Senators LIPMAN, SINGER, Bryant, Rice, LaRossa, Baer, Girgenti, O'Connor, Sacco, Cardinale, Codey, Lesniak, MacInnes, Kenny, DiFrancesco, Bassano, McGreevey, Schluter, McNamara, Bark, Gormley, Cafiero, Connors, Inverso, Kosco, Littell, Kyrillos, Martin, Ewing, Scott, Ciesla, Palaia, Matheussen, Bennett, Sinagra and Bubba

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- A SENATE RESOLUTION declaring the month of February 1997 as "Black
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- History Month" in the State of New Jersey in recognition of the
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- accomplishments of Black Americans and their contributions to the history
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- of this nation and State.
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- WHEREAS, The history of New Jersey and the history of our nation are
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- inextricably linked to the heritage of our country's Black Americans; and
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- WHEREAS, In the beginning of our nation's history, the majority of Black
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- Americans lived as slaves; yet many, such as Crispus Attucks, participated
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- in the struggle for American independence, sacrificing their lives in order to
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- build a society based upon the ideals of liberty, prosperity and self-
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- government; and
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- WHEREAS, The history of Black Americans is the story of extraordinary
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- individuals whose achievements have set examples for the citizens of all
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- racess; of freedom fighters such as Frederick Douglass and Harriet Tubman,
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- who worked to abolish slavery; of scientists and innovators such as George
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- Washington Carver and Elijah McCoy, whose inventions and innovations
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- contributed immeasurably to the scientific progress and industrial success
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- of this nation; and of social reformers such as Mary McCleod Bethune,
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- W.E.B. DuBois, and Martin Luther King, who dedicated his life and
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- inspired others to create a nation where all people are treated as equals;
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- and
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- WHEREAS, The history of New Jersey has been enriched by the shining
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- examples of Black New Jerseyans such as Paul Robeson, whose
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- intellectual, musical and athletic achievements set the highest standards for
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- people of all races, and William "Count" Basie, whose musical genius
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- greatly enriched American music; and
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- WHEREAS, While the history of Black Americans is also the story of countless
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- nameless heroes brought to our shores who endured lives of bondage and
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- oppression, the deprivation of their civil rights, and the ravages of bigotry

1 and racism, it is a history for which the most glorious chapters have yet to  
 2 be written as Black Americans contribute in full measure to the fulfillment  
 3 of the American promise; and

4 **WHEREAS**, The people of New Jersey and this nation should study black  
 5 history, so that they may learn from its stories of heroism, struggle, and  
 6 achievement; now, therefore,

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8 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

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10 1. This House hereby declares the month of February 1997 to be "Black  
 11 History Month" in the State of New Jersey, and urges all citizens of this State  
 12 to participate appropriately in its observance.

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14 2. A duly authenticated copy of this resolution, signed by the President of  
 15 the Senate and attested by the Secretary, shall be transmitted to the New  
 16 Jersey State Conference of the NAACP.

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19 STATEMENT

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21 This resolution declares February 1997 as "Black History Month" in New  
 22 Jersey and urges all citizens to participate appropriately in its observance.

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27 Declares February 1997 as "Black History Month."