



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2010
AS BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, February is recognized as Black History Month throughout the United States and the 2010 National Theme is "the History of Black Economic Empowerment"; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme calls upon us to honor the African Americans who overcame injustice and inequality to achieve financial independence and the security of self-empowerment that comes with it, and recognizes the enterprise and entrepreneurship of African Americans in the United States both past and present, which helped strengthen and invigorate the nation; and

WHEREAS, pushing against the odds, African Americans became landowners, skilled workers, small businessmen and women, professionals, and ministers. In the Jim Crow economy, they started insurance companies, established vocational schools and colleges, created cosmetic firms, banks, newspapers, and hospitals. To fight exclusion from the economy, they initiated their own unions and professional associations; and

WHEREAS, in 1910, a group of dedicated reformers, black and white, gathered to create an organization to address the needs of African Americans as they migrated to the cities of the United States. The organization that they created a century ago became what we all know as the National Urban League. For a century, they have struggled to open the doors of opportunity for successive generations, engaging in the challenges of each age. We celebrate the centennial of the National Urban League by exploring racial uplift and black economic development in the twentieth century. We are heirs to their extraordinary progress; overcoming today's challenges will require the same dedication and sense of urgency that enabled past generations of African Americans to rise above the injustices of their time; and

WHEREAS, when we celebrate and recognize the achievements of African Americans, we recognize those leaders whose courage, insight and fortitude signifies empowerment, innovation, character and leadership;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors declares February 2010, as BLACK HISTORY MONTH, and further encourages the residents of Santa Barbara County to participate in the activities and events acknowledging the significant accomplishments and achievements of those who have shaped our nation and influenced society for the benefit of all;

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, State of California, this ninth day of February, 2010 by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Clerk of the Board

Supervisor - 1st District

Supervisor - 2nd District

Supervisor - 3rd District

Supervisor - 4th District

Supervisor - 5th District