

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION celebrating Black History Month

Smith V

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

First Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2009)

**HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION celebrating Black History Month.

Whereas, Black history has been celebrated by Americans each year since 1926, first as Negro History Week and later as Black History Month; and

Whereas, Blacks have been in America since colonial times, but it was not until the 20th century that they were represented in history books; and

Whereas, the celebration of Black History Month and the study of black history came into being through the efforts of Dr. Carter G. Woodson; and

Whereas, Dr. Woodson's parents were former slaves, and he spent his childhood working in the Kentucky coal mines; and

Whereas, Dr. Woodson enrolled in high school at age 20, graduated within two years, and went on to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard University; and

Whereas, Dr. Woodson was disturbed to find that history books largely ignored the black American population and mentioned blacks only in ways that reflected the inferior

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social position they were assigned at the time; and

Whereas, Dr. Woodson began the task of writing Black Americans into the nations history; and

Whereas, through the efforts of Dr. Woodson, several organizations were established as a way to bring national attention to the contributions of black people throughout American history, including the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, founded in 1915 (now known as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History), the Journal of Negro History (now known as the Journal of African American History), and in 1926, the establishment of Negro History Week; and

Whereas, Dr. Woodson chose the second week of February for Negro History Week because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the black American population: Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln; and

Whereas, Black History Month, celebrated in February, acknowledges the achievements of blacks in the military, the arts, civil rights, education, entertainment, history, law, literature, medicine, music, politics, science, sports and other areas; and

Whereas, Black History Month aims to bridge the gap created by American history's failure to accurately acknowledge, portray, and record the contributions and inventions of blacks; and

Whereas, Black Americans reflect a legacy of courage and dedication that has helped to guide our nations success and prosperity; therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*



1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly acknowledges
2 the many contributions and accomplishments of black Americans
3 throughout the history of the United States and Indiana.

