

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**2022 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-013-2022  
Proposed by Council Member Taveras  
Introduced by Council Members Taveras, Streeter, Ivey, Dernoga, Hawkins, Turner,  
Harrison, Franklin, and Davis  
Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Introduction March 8, 2022

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Black History Month

3 For the purpose of observing, recognizing and celebrating the month of February 2022 as Black  
4 History Month.

5 WHEREAS, Africans were first brought involuntarily to the shores of the United States as  
6 early as the 17th century; and

7 WHEREAS, African Americans suffered enslavement and subsequently faced the injustices  
8 of lynch mobs, segregation, and denial of the basic and fundamental rights of citizenship; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2022, the vestiges of those injustices and inequalities remain evident in the  
10 communities of Prince George's County; and

11 WHEREAS, in the face of injustices, people of good will and of all races in Prince  
12 George's County have distinguished themselves with a commitment to the noble ideals on which  
13 the United States was founded and have fought courageously for the rights and freedom of  
14 African Americans and others; and

15 WHEREAS, Maryland's African Americans, such as Benjamin Banneker, Cab Calloway,  
16 Frederick Douglass, Matthew Henson, Thurgood Marshall, Parren J. Mitchell, Wayne K. Curry,  
17 and Harriet Tubman along with many others, worked against racism to achieve success and to  
18 make significant contributions to the economic, educational, political, artistic, athletic, literary,  
19 scientific, and technological advancement of the State of Maryland; and

20 WHEREAS, the contributions of African Americans from all walks of life throughout the  
21 history of the United States reflect the greatness of the State of Maryland within Prince George's

1 County; and

2 WHEREAS, the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass inspired the  
3 creation of Negro History Week, the precursor to Black History Month; and

4 WHEREAS, Negro History Week represented the culmination of the efforts of Dr. Carter  
5 G. Woodson, the “Father of Black History”, to enhance knowledge of Black history through The  
6 Journal of Negro History, published by the Association for the Study of African American Life  
7 and History, which was founded by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and Jesse E. Moorland and where the  
8 Honorable Dorothy Bailey currently sits as an Executive Council Member after previously  
9 representing the Seventh Councilmanic District of Prince George's County on the Prince  
10 George's County Council and now, also serving as the Vice Chair of the Board for Prince  
11 George’s County Park and Planning; and

12 WHEREAS, Black History Month, celebrated during the month of February, originated in  
13 1926 when Dr. Carter G. Woodson set aside a special period in February to recognize the  
14 heritage and achievements of Black people in the United States.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's  
16 County, Maryland, recognizes the importance of Black History Month as an opportunity to  
17 reflect on the complex history of our country, while remaining hopeful and confident about the  
18 path ahead and acknowledges the significance of Black History Month as an important  
19 opportunity to commemorate the tremendous contributions of African Americans to the history  
20 of the United States and the overall formation of the country.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's County,  
22 Maryland, encourages the celebration of Black History Month to provide a continuing  
23 opportunity for all people in the Prince George’s County to learn from the past and understand  
24 the experiences that have shaped the State of Maryland.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council of Prince George's County,  
26 Maryland, agrees that, while our Nation began as a divided country, we must honor the  
27 contribution of all pioneers throughout history who have helped to ensure the legacy of this great  
28 State and move forward with purpose, united tirelessly as a nation “indivisible, with liberty and  
29 justice for all.”

Adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Calvin S. Hawkins, II  
Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna J. Brown  
Clerk of the Council