PROCLAMATION
African American History Month
February 2023

WHEREAS, Black History Month is celebrated each February and originated with the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, founded in 1915 by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, who later initiated "Negro History Week" in 1926; and

WHEREAS, the month of February was selected partially because of the birthday of abolitionist Frederick Douglass; and

WHEREAS, African people have lived in the place called Alameda since at least 1860; and

WHEREAS, African American families like the Hacketts, Sloans, Clintons, Kimbroughs, and many more have lived in Alameda since the turn of the 20th century, including African people from Cape Verde and throughout the African Diaspora; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have formed and participated in multiple civic, civil, and human rights groups, such as the Alameda Colored Women's Civic Study Club; Alameda County NAACP; the Alameda Civil Rights Congress; Alameda City NAACP; the Black Student Unions of Alameda High School, Encinal High School, and the College of Alameda; the Buena Vista Community Association; the Coalition of Alamedans for Racial Equality (CARE); and Renewed HOPE; and

WHEREAS, African Americans have organized to practice varied faith traditions, including the Estuary Community Church, Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Isle of the Patmos Church, Islamic Center of Alameda, Love Fellowship, Chosen Vessels, and the Rehoboth Christian Fellowship; and

WHEREAS, numerous African Americans have engaged civically, and in particular as both elected and appointed officials in the City, including: CW Moore, social service and human relations commissioner; Clarence Gilmore, Clayton Guyton, housing commissioners; Beresford Bingham, Alameda's first African American School Board member; Ardella Dailey, Alameda's first African American Superintendent and first African American female School Board member; Albert Dewitt, Alameda's first African American City Council member; Marie Gilmore, Alameda's first African American female City Council member and first African American Mayor; and Mialisa Tania Bonta, Alameda's first Afro Latinx female School Board President; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 Black History Month theme adopted by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (SAALH) is *"Black Resistance"*,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Alameda Unified School District Board of Education proclaims February 2023 as African American History Month.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of January, 2023.

AYES:_____MEMBERS:_____

NOES:_____MEMBERS:_____

ABSENT:_____MEMBERS:_____

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Heather Little, President
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California

ATTEST:
By: _____
Pasquale Scuderi, Secretary
Board of Education
Alameda Unified School District
Alameda County, State of California