

From: Congresswoman Joyce Beatty <congresswoman.beatty@mail.house.gov> To: "Colclough, Kevin" <Kevin.Colclough@mail.house.gov> Subject: Black History is American History! Date: Mon, 01 Feb 2021 12:34:40 -0500

Congresswoman Beatty Celebrates Black History Month The brainchild of Carter G. Woodson, and originally known as "Negro History Week," February was officially recognized as Black History Month by former President Gerald Ford in 1976. Since then, we as a nation come together every year to reflect on and recognize the contributions of courageous African-American leaders and raise awareness of key historical moments in our country's ongoing fight for equality, justice, and civil rights.

Heralding 2021 Black History Month, U.S. Congresswoman Joyce Beatty (OH-03), Chair of the powerful Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), said: "Black history is American history, and I call on all Americans to join me-before, during, and after Black History Month-in celebrating the storied history and significant contributions of countless Black Americans. This year's celebration is all the more significant as the Congressional Black Caucus, the 'Conscience of Congress,' marks our 50th anniversary of fighting for the lives and livelihoods of communities of color. In that spirit, as CBC chair, I will use my voice to continue speaking truth to power and remain committed to ensuring equal justice, equality, and equity for everyone-following in the footprints of trailblazers who boldly walked before us." In conjunction with Black History Month, Beatty will introduce three resolutions: (1) recognizing the challenges Black veterans faced after their selfless service and emphasizing the need for the VA to continue to work to eliminate racial health and benefit disparities; (2) supporting the goals and ideals of Black History Month and honoring the outstanding contributions of the 88 African-American Medal of Honor recipients; and (3) expressing support for the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp in honor of the Buffalo Soldiers. We owe Black veterans and soldiers, past and present, a huge debt of gratitude," Beatty said. "All of us know that there are countless heroes and sheroes who sacrificed everything to make our Union more perfect for everyone." She added, "I call on my colleagues, Democrats and Republicans alike, to come together and do the same by officially recognizing that Black history is American history." Throughout February, Beatty will recognize Black History Month and the people who make our country great on social media. So, please be sure to visit the Congresswoman's Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and don't forget to join the conversation online by using #BlackHistoryMonth and #BHM2021.

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