

- WHEREAS, during Black History Month, we honor the rich cultural heritage and invaluable contributions of African Americans to our nation, and recognize the vital role of organizations dedicated to preserving, celebrating, and advancing the legacy of Black history; and
- WHEREAS, the Gainesville-Hall County Black History Society stands as a shining example of commitment to historical preservation and education, diligently collecting, preserving, and disseminating the significant African American historical data and artifacts of our community; and
- WHEREAS, we acknowledge with gratitude the visionary leadership of the Society's founders, Ella Jean Wilmont Smith and Linda Rucker Hutchens, whose dedication and foresight led to the establishment of this esteemed organization; and
- WHEREAS, we commend the Society's tireless efforts in collaboration with the Hall County Library System, resulting in the preservation of more than 500 historic photos and documents, ensuring that the stories and memories of Gainesville-Hall County's African American community endure for generations to come; and
- WHEREAS, as we celebrate Black History Month, we also recognize and honor the invaluable contributions of community organizations such as the Newtown Florist Club, the Grady Young Foundation, and the North Georgia Black Business Alliance (NGBBA) in furthering the principles of social justice, community empowerment, and economic prosperity; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Hall County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of February 2024 to be

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

and extend our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the Gainesville-Hall County Black History Society, the Newtown Florist Club, the Grady Young Foundation, and the North Georgia Black Business Alliance for the outstanding contributions to our community and their steadfast dedication to advancing the cause of justice, equality, and prosperity for all.

Adopted this 8th day of February 2024,

RICHARD HIGGINS CHAIRMAN

GREGG POOLE

DISTRICT 3

DISTRICT I

KATHY COOPER

JENNIE

JEFFREY STOWE DISTRICT 4 JENNIFER RIVERA

BILLY POWELL

DISTRICT 2