

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT
of
LOYOLA CHICAGO

MEASURE OF THE SENATE

Black History Month Recognition Resolution

*To formally recognize Black History Month within the Student Government of Loyola
Chicago*

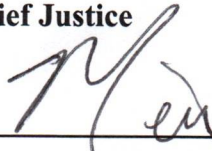
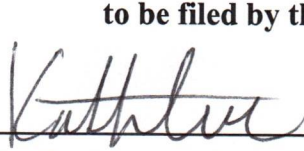
Version 3

20 - 0 - 0

to be filed by the Secretary of the Senate

4 - 0 - 0

to be filed by the Chief Justice



Signed by the President of the Student Government of Loyola Chicago



Signed by the Chief Justice of the Student Government of Loyola Chicago

Chiefly Sponsored By:

Senator Dorien Perry-Tillmon

Co-Sponsored By:

Senator Kathryn Caputo

Senator Audrey Carberry

Senator Ella Doyle

Senator Jocelyn Esparza

Senator Gillen Faenza

Senator Alex Gianneschi

Senator Marissa Gibson

Senator N'Dea Jefferson

Senator Andrew McAllister

Senator Kaleigh O'Brien

Senator Mofe Ogunsola

Senator Nabhan Rafiq

Senator Niki Safakas

Senator Joe Walsh

Senator Sophie Yano

Black History Month Recognition Legislation

*To formally recognize Black History Month within the Student Government of Loyola
Chicago*

- Whereas,¹** Black/African Americans have been legally enslaved, segregated, marginalized, and discriminated against both historically and currently, and
- Whereas,²** Dr. Carter G. Woodson was an American historian, author, journalist and the founder of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, and
- Whereas,³** Dr. Carter G. Woodson coined February as Black History Month in 1926 to honor the heritage and achievements of Black/African American people in the United States, and
- Whereas,⁴** Presidents of the United States of America have officially recognized the month of February as Black History Month since 1976, and
- Whereas,⁵** The Black Cultural Center, hereafter referred to as the BCC, is a “student-led organization...created out of the realization that all people are created equal and to recognize that the social realities of Black-identified students deserve attention, acceptance, and appreciation. [The Black Cultural Center] seeks to serve as a safe-haven for students of color to embrace various cultures that come from the African Diaspora.”¹, and
- Whereas,⁶** The BCC has pioneered on-campus celebrations of Black History Month at Loyola University Chicago, and
- Whereas,⁷** The Loyola University Chicago, hereafter referred to as LUC,’s “2018-2019 Common Data Set” states there are only 650 Black/African

¹ <https://orgsync.com/13640/chapter>

American identified students out of the 11,919 Undergraduate students, making up 5.45% of the Undergraduate student body, and

Whereas,⁸ LUC's Diversity statement notes,

*"...we recognize a common unity that anchors and enlivens our commitment to inclusion and creates brave spaces for dialogue to happen, through initiatives that educate the masses. We will hold ourselves accountable to this intentional vision through fostering an integrated society. We will do so with the wisdom that each member of our student, faculty, and staff community brings their own unique perspectives, strengths, and critical inquiries to serve our mission. We will continuously evaluate our commitment to diversity through conscious engagement with its manifestation across the local and global world we live in today."*², and

Whereas,⁹ LUC's Diversity statement calls on our university community to continue to seek opportunities to honor our collective history, and

Whereas,¹⁰ Celebrating Black History Month would encourage campus-wide conversations and education about the history of Black/African Americans in the United States and LUC, and

Whereas,¹¹ Chapter 1, Article 2, Section 1 of the Student Government of Loyola Chicago, hereafter referred to as the SGLC, Articles of Governance state:

"The mission of the SGLC shall be as follows:

We commit wholeheartedly to voice the concerns of the student body, to act as an instrument for the cooperation of students, faculty and administration, to provide an open forum for dialogue, and to be a voice for student opinions concerning the traditions, idea, and affairs of the University. We shall do so in order to afford all undergraduate students

² <https://www.luc.edu/diversityandinclusion/about/diversitystatement/>

the opportunity to participate in the management of their own affairs.”,
and

Whereas,¹² The SGLC serves as the representative organization for the undergraduate student body at LUC advocating for student centered policies and resources, and

Whereas,¹³ No Black/African American members were represented within the SGLC’s body in the Spring of 2018, and

Whereas,¹⁴ The SGLC currently has six Black/African American identified members holding positions in both the Executive and Legislative branches, and

Whereas,¹⁵ The SGLC’s Inclusion, Equity, and Diversity Statement states:

“The SGLC strives for and is committed to the inclusion and empowerment of all students and members of the Loyola community of which represent the full spectrum of the human experience and social identities. Such identities include but are not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, age, religion, language, ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic status, immigration status, and national origin. Furthermore, the SGLC aims for diversity in its legislation, programs, and relationships, as well as in the organization's work to promote, maintain, and foster a culture of equity and inclusion on and off campus.”, and

Whereas,¹⁶ The SGLC currently has not formally recognized February as Black History Month, and

Whereas,¹⁷ The SGLC understands the importance of Black History Month as an essential time to acknowledge the immense successes of and contributions

of Black/African Americans to the history of the United States and at LUC.

Be It Resolved,¹ The SGLC shall formally recognize February 2020 and every February to follow as Black History Month in celebration of the accomplishments of Black/African American students at LUC, Black/African American members in the SGLC, and Black/African American people in society, and

Be It Resolved,² The SGLC recommends that Loyola University Chicago formally recognizes every February as Black History Month in congruence with its Diversity Statement, and

Be it Resolved,³ The SGLC calls on LUC and the Executive Council for Diversity to program, support and promote university-wide events every February in celebration of Black History Month.