

RESOLUTION NO. 49

DESIGNATING FEBRUARY 2012 AS “AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH” IN ALBANY COUNTY

Introduced: 2/13/12

By Mss. Chapman, McKnight, Messrs. Clay, Simpson and the Albany County Legislature:

WHEREAS, This month Albany County will join citizens from around the nation to commemorate National African-American History Month and pay tribute to the determination and triumphs of African-Americans throughout our Country’s history and to the legacy of their experience, and

WHEREAS, Albany County has chosen “Black Women in American History and Culture” as its theme for the 2012 observance of African-American History Month – a theme which sheds light on the immense contribution of black women to American history and culture, and

WHEREAS, African-American women such as Harriet Tubman and Rosa Parks are major figures in the history of the evolution of American society, and

WHEREAS, Mary McLeod Bethune, the first African-American to establish a four-year accredited institution known as Bethune-Cookman College and Elizabeth Duncan Koontz, the first African-American President of the National Education Association are leading figures in the field of education, and

WHEREAS, Ida B. Wells was a courageous leader in the field of journalism in the 19th century and was the first African-American female writer to publish documents on lynchings, and

WHEREAS, Josephine Baker was the first American woman to receive the French Croix de Guerre for her aid to the French Resistance during World War II, and

WHEREAS, This theme honors the role these and countless other African-American women have played in shaping our great nation through their leadership, patriotism, intellect and artistic expression, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By this Honorable Body that February 2012 is hereby designated as “African-American History Month” in Albany County, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That all citizens of Albany County are encouraged to reflect upon the African-American experience and contributions to the history and culture of the nation, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Adopted by unanimous vote. 2/13/12