

Proclamation



WHEREAS, The Atlanta Black McDonald's Operators Association is a local chapter of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association whose members are active participants in communities across Georgia, sponsoring back-to-school drives, Atlanta's *Celebration Bowl* football game, and the BMOA Scholarship for the United Negro College Fund; and



WHEREAS, the National Black McDonald's Operators Association encompasses 200+ independent Black Franchisees from around the country, and many that own and operate within Fulton County and across Georgia.



WHEREAS, on December 21, 1968, Herman Petty of Chicago opened his first restaurant on Chicago's South Side at 6500 South Stony Island Avenue, Chicago, making him the first African American McDonald's franchisee.



WHEREAS, by the end of 1969, there were twelve African American owned and operated McDonald's restaurants, mostly located in the Midwest, and the sharing of ideas, problems, and concerns amongst Owner/Operators eventually led to the formation of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association in 1972, and in May 2022, will celebrate its 50th anniversary; and



WHEREAS, the founding members of the National Black McDonald's Operators Association who attended the first organized convention of the organization in May 1972 were: Sherman Claypool, Wayne Embry, Andrew Davis, John Perry, Mallory Jones, Noel White, Lester Hairston, Cloris Dale, Andrew Murrell, Walter Pitchford, Benjamin Davis, and Edward Wimp; and



WHEREAS, the tenacity and courage of these African American entrepreneurs and pioneers laid the foundation for what has become the most successful group of African American entrepreneurs in the United States today, and has paved the way for the National Black McDonald's Operators Association to be partners and leaders, dedicated to providing resources across their communities in an effort to help build stronger neighborhoods;



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners commends the National Black McDonald's Operators Association for their commitment to helping African American communities by providing educational resources, promoting tolerance and acceptance, and empowering the people they serve through the regional chapters of Black McDonald's Operator Association, and does hereby proclaim Monday, February 21, 2022 as "NATIONAL BLACK MCDONALD'S OPERATORS ASSOCIATION APPRECIATION DAY" in Fulton County, Georgia.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

Chair to the Commission

Attest:

Clerk to the Commission

F U L T O N C O U N T Y