

1 **A RESOLUTION BY THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF**
2 **COMMISSIONERS IN OBSERVANCE OF THE 94th**
3 **BIRTHDAY OF THE REVEREND DR. MARTIN LUTHER**
4 **KING JR.**

5
6 **WHEREAS**, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. ("Dr. King") was born in Fulton County, in
7 the City of Atlanta, 94 years ago, on January 15, 1929, the son of Martin Luther King Sr. and Mrs.
8 Alberta Williams King, and the grandson of the Reverend and Mrs. A.D. Williams; and
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Dr. King lies at eternal rest and peace alongside his wife Coretta Scott King, at The
11 King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, on Auburn Avenue in Atlanta; and
12

13 **WHEREAS**, like his father and grandfather before him, Dr. King became the pastor of Ebenezer
14 Baptist Church in Atlanta; and
15

16 **WHEREAS**, Dr. King attended Booker T. Washington High School, then attended Morehouse
17 College and graduating at 19, then later earning a divinity degree in Pennsylvania and a Doctor of
18 Philosophy Degree at Boston University; and
19

20 **WHEREAS**, in the early 1950s, King became the pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in
21 Montgomery, Alabama and subsequently led many of the greatest nonviolent demonstrations in
22 United States history, including the Montgomery Bus Boycott; and
23

24 **WHEREAS**, in 1957, only at the age of twenty-eight, Dr. King established the Southern Christian
25 Leadership Conference (SCLC) to fight segregation and achieve civil rights, and became its first
26 president; and
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28 **WHEREAS**, in the face of crippling opposition, Dr. King stood firm and continued to fight for
29 social change, all while subjecting himself to danger and multiple arrests, including being arrested
30 along with his brother Alfred Daniels "A.D." Williams King and dozens more participating in an
31 October 1960, Atlanta lunch-counter sit-in; and
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33 **WHEREAS**, in August 1963, Dr. King delivered one of the world's most recognizable and
34 memorable speeches (*I Have A Dream*) to more than a quarter-million people in the United States
35 capital, on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., as the culmination of the historic March on
36 Washington for Jobs and Freedom, which helped propel passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
37 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and
38

39 **WHEREAS**, in his last months of life, Dr. King was organizing the Poor People's Campaign,
40 traveling across the country to assemble a multiracial army of demonstrators representing those
41 who lived at and below the poverty line; and
42

43 **WHEREAS**, although Dr. King's life was tragically cut short at the age of 39 by an assassin at a
44 Memphis, Tennessee motel, while fighting for equality for city sanitation workers, his courage,
45 selflessness, and most importantly his philosophy of nonviolent direct action, caused a nation to
46 reevaluate its moral compass and paved the way for rational and nondestructive social change—a
47 struggle that by the very nature of the "Black Lives Matter" movement; and

1 **WHEREAS**, Dr. King's example continues to challenge us to meet the needs of the least of us,
2 reminding us to be a voice for those silenced, courageous for those afraid, and to standup for
3 those who cannot at great personal peril; and
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5 **WHEREAS**, at the age of thirty-five, Dr. King became the youngest recipient of the Nobel Peace
6 Prize, and later was awarded posthumously the two highest American civilian honors: the
7 Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977, and the Congressional Gold Medal in 2004; and
8

9 **WHEREAS**, after a long and relentless effort by his Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity brothers, Dr.
10 King's likeness stands as the only African-American at the United States National Mall in
11 Washington, D.C., dedicated in 2011, at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial.
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13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that on this fourth day of January in the year two
14 thousand twenty-three, and of the establishment of Fulton County, Georgia over one hundred
15 seventy years ago, the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County enthusiastically joins in the
16 national observance of the 94th birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and hereby
17 honors his life and legacy as the County's greatest resident, and urges all Fulton citizens to
18 participate in the observance, and;
19

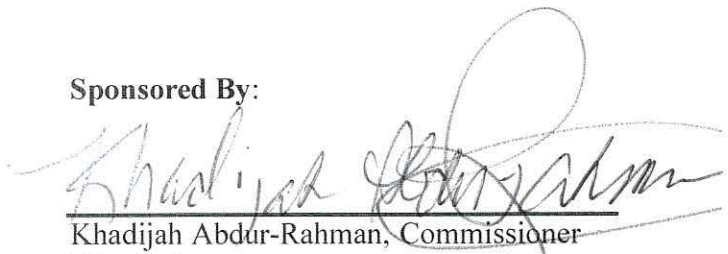
20 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County directs the
21 Clerk to the Commission to spread this Resolution upon the official minutes and record of the
22 Board of Commissioners of Fulton County, Georgia, and disseminate the Resolution appropriately
23 throughout all of Fulton County and to the immediate family members of Dr. King.
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**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS**

Sponsored By:


Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner
District 6

37 **ATTEST:**

38 
39 Tonya R. Grier
40 Clerk to the Commission
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43 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

44 
45 Y. Soo Jo
46 County Attorney
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