

Proclamation



WHEREAS,

Robert "Bob" Mants, Jr. was a native of Atlanta, born at Grady Hospital and graduated from East Point/South Fulton High School in 1961; he later attended Morehouse College where he continued his work with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC); and



WHEREAS,

Bob began volunteering with the SNCC when he was 14 years old, stuffing envelopes, hanging posters and signs, and answering telephones at the Atlanta headquarters; and



WHEREAS,

Bob was one of the five founders of The Lowndes County Freedom Organization, also known as the Lowndes County Freedom Party, or Black Panther Party, founded in 1965; and



WHEREAS,

in 1964, Lowndes County has no registered Black voters, even though the population was 80% Black; Bob began to register Black Voters who were subsequently evicted from their homes and intimidated by predominantly white landowners; and



WHEREAS,

Bob remained in Lowndes County and raised his family there; he served as a farm management specialist at Tuskegee University and in 1984, he was elected to the Lowndes County Commission; and



WHEREAS,

for his life's work of fighting for civil rights for all, the Alabama Legislature voted in 2021 to rename a 22-mile portion of historic Highway 80 – Selma to Montgomery Historic Trail after Robert "Bob" Mants, Jr.;



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Robert "Bob" Mants, Jr. for a life of leadership and sacrifice for the civil rights of all citizens, and does hereby proclaim Tuesday, April 25, 2023 as "**ROBERT BOB MANTS, JR. REMEMBRANCE DAY**" in Fulton County, Georgia.

Fulton County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner

Attest:

Clerk to the Commission

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