

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

WHILE IN SESSION
STATE CAPITOL
JUNEAU, AK 99801
(907) 465-3704

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE

EDUCATION COMMITTEE



•
WHILE IN ANCHORAGE
1500 W BENSON BLVD
ANCHORAGE, AK 99503
(907) 269-0169

SENATOR Tom Begich
SENATE DISTRICT J

Sponsor Statement: Senate Resolution 3 - Proclaiming February 2017 as Black History Month

In 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson established a Negro History Week to coincide with the birth week shared by President Abraham Lincoln and abolitionist leader Fredrick Douglass. In 1976, Senator Gerald R. Ford expanded February to Black History Month in honor of the nation's bicentennial. African Americans have made a tremendous contribution to building this State and ensuring it thrives. In order to honor that contribution and ensure that the history of African Americans is remembered and celebrated in this country.

While the State of Alaska has never previously passed a Resolution honoring Black History Month, this allows the Legislature to highlight the particular impact African Americans have had both on our history and will have on our future.

I respectfully request your support of Senate Resolution 3.