

City of Boston  
IN  
CITY COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS CHARLES C. YANCEY AND CHUCK TURNER

HAITIAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH, 2010

- WHEREAS: Haitians and Haitian Americans in the Greater Boston area have been celebrating the month of May as Haitian-American Heritage Month since 1998; and
- WHEREAS: May has historical and cultural traditions that are honored and remembered by Haitians around the world, especially the Haitian Revolution, which was the forerunner of modern anti-colonial movements throughout the Third World; and
- WHEREAS: General Toussaint Louverture, one of the leaders of the Haitian Revolution, was born on May 20, 1743. Louverture was compared by some to George Washington and later to Napoleon Bonaparte; and
- WHEREAS: May is also the month in which an historic pact signed by Black and Mulatto officers occurred, leading to the creation of the Haitian Flag on May 18, 1803, as well as Haiti's independence on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1804, when Haiti become the first Black independent country in the world; and
- WHEREAS: May 1<sup>st</sup> in Haiti is also celebrated as Labor and Agricultural Day, a day when workers, peasants and artisans celebrate together; and
- WHEREAS: Haitians honor their mothers on the last Sunday in May by wearing red flowers if their mothers are still alive and white or purple flowers if their mothers have died; and
- WHEREAS: Many religious celebrations in Haiti occur during the month of May, known by Haitian Catholics as the month of Mary, the mother of Jesus; and
- WHEREAS: The Annual Haitian American Unity Parade in Boston and the Annual Haitian Flag Raising on Boston City Hall Plaza are both held in May, featuring Haitian leaders, state and city officials, marching bands and many other organizations; Be It Therefore
- RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council, in meeting assembled, proclaims the month of May, 2010 as Haitian-American Heritage Month, 2010 in the City of Boston.



By: [Signature]  
President of the City Council

Attest: [Signature]  
Clerk of the City of Boston

Offered by: [Signature]

Date: April 28, 2010