

RESOLUTION NUMBER 219
Freeman Bosley, Sr.
In Honor of African-American History Month

WHEREAS, African-American History Month was founded by African-American, publisher, historian, community organizer, and civil rights leader Dr. Carter G. Woodson in 1926 to provide a time in which the historical achievements of African-Americans are highlighted, discussed, and celebrated; and

WHEREAS, History is defined by many historians as the study and chronicling of important events, issues, and personalities that have significantly impacted the course of human affairs, and thus African-American History Month brings attention to the significant impact African-Americans have made to human history; and

WHEREAS, Over the years during African-American History Month, this honorable Board of Aldermen has proudly joined in the celebrations through the adoption of resolutions honoring St. Louis African-American achievers who have shown leadership and made historic and beneficial contributions to the fabric of the City of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, This Board now takes the time during African-American History Month 2017 to recognize one of its own, Alderman Freeman Bosley, Sr., one of St. Louis' African-American achievers and historic figures; and

WHEREAS, Aldermen Bosley has represented the 3rd Ward of the City of St. Louis for over 35 years and in that time has shown leadership and has consistently fought for and sponsored legislation for racial equity, civil rights, and social justice and is now one of the Board's senior Aldermen; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Bosely has sponsored or co-sponsored legislation for improved housing and economic development in north St. Louis, an insurance program to help residents pay for sewer line repairs, a smoking ban in City Hall, healthcare service in north St. Louis, funding for recreation programs for youth, jobs and commercial development in north St. Louis, a congressional study for the effects of slavery on American society as well as minority inclusion and business enterprises, all of which have helped to change St. Louis into a better and more equitable place to live; and

WHEREAS, He was born in the family home at 4052 West Belle on December 1, 1935; is a graduate of Summer High School; attended DeVry Technical Institute in Chicago, Illinois, where he studied electronics; returned to St. Louis and opened up three TV Repair centers; founded Teek Production Company; established the Teek record label that produced three local hits; learned to speak fluent Spanish, which he used at DeVry Institute because they would not allow U.S. African-Americans to attend; and reared and guided St. Louis' first African-American Mayor, Freeman Bosely, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Alderman Bosely is known for his wit, humor, and abundance of proverbs and sayings steeped in African-American traditions, history, culture, and experience that he uses abundantly in his speeches, providing color, wisdom, and texture to his words.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we pause in our deliberations during African-American History Month to recognize and honor Alderman Freeman Bosley, Sr. for being a St. Louis African-American Achiever and for his leadership and many contributions he has made to the political, social, and cultural life of the City of St. Louis, and by adoption of this resolution we wish to thank him for being an excellent example of community concern, care, talent, and commitment, and we further direct the Clerk of this Board to spread a copy of this Resolution across the permanent rolls of this Board and to prepare a commemorative copy to the end that it may be presented to our honoree at a time and place deemed appropriate by the Sponsor.

Introduced on the 10th day of February, 2017, by:

The Honorable Terry Kennedy, Alderman 18th Ward

Adopted the 10th day of February, 2017, as attested by:

Timothy G. O'Connell
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen