PROCLAMATION

OF THE

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2026 AS "AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK HISTORY MONTH" IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

WHEREAS, This month, we pay homage to the rich history and contributions of Black Americans who have shaped our state and nation in countless ways through centuries of struggle and triumph. First proposed by scholar Carter G. Woodson in 1926, Black History Month lifts up to the Black experience in a fuller telling of Americas story, and selects a theme to highlight facets of history that merit particular attention; and

WHEREAS, This year's theme, "A Century of Black History Commemorations," explores the impact and meaning of Black history on the status of Black peoples in the modern world. Through every conceivable avenue – from the arts to public and civic service to the sciences - Black Americans have changed the world, broken barriers, and pushed progress forward; and

WHEREAS, For more than 175 years, Black Californians have led the way for change and forged a path for those came after them. Whittier's like Octavia Butler and Maya Angelou penned classics that transformed the literary world. Organizers like Huey Newton and Angela Davis demonstrated that change was possible. Belva Davis, who recently passed, was the first Black woman TV Reporter on the West Coast who provided a new perspective in the news; and

WHEREAS, The preservation and recognition of Black history has long been a focus in California. The state has been home to a number o black newspapers and publishing houses, and notable the California African American Museum is the first African American museum of art, history and culture fully supported by our state. Maya Angelou said, "I have a great respect for the past. We can only know where we're going if we know where we've been."; and

WHEREAS, During Black History Month, let us reflect on our shared history, and draw inspiration from the progress made as we continue together on the path toward equality, liberty, and opportunity for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims February, 2026, as:

"AFRICAN AMERICAN/BLACK HISTORY MONTH" IN MENDOCINO COUNTY"

Dated:

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Bernie Norvell, Chair