

By His Excellency Dannel P. Malloy, Governor: an
Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, each year during the month of February, we celebrate Black History Month to expand our knowledge and deepen our appreciation of the countless contributions and achievements African-Americans have made to our state and nation; and

*W*HEREAS, in honoring Black History Month, President Barack Obama proclaimed, "In the centuries since African Americans first arrived on our shores, they have known the bitterness of slavery and oppression, the hope of progress, and the triumph of the American Dream;" and

*W*HEREAS, Black History month affords us the opportunity to reflect on how far we have come as a state and a nation in the 151 years since the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation and 50 years since the 1964 Civil Rights Act, but also to recognize the significant challenges that remain in achieving equality; and

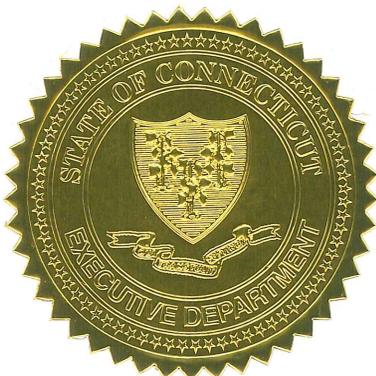
*W*HEREAS, African-Americans have made valuable and lasting contributions to the State of Connecticut's economic, cultural, spiritual and political development that are worthy of celebration; and

*W*HEREAS, Black History Month has its origins in Black History Week, an observance initiated in 1926 by American historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson, and was expanded into a month-long celebration in 1976 as part of the nation's bicentennial; and

*W*HEREAS, it is important that public officials, educators and all of the people of our state observe the 38th Black History Month with appropriate programs and activities that recognize and raise awareness of the vital history of Connecticut's African-American citizens; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially designate the month of February 2014 as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
in the State of Connecticut.




GOVERNOR