

WHEREAS: John William Templeton, a historian, and Frederick E. Jordan, Sr., a civilian engineer, founded Black Business Month in 2004 in an effort to drive policy agenda affecting the 2.6 million Black-owned businesses across the nation to recognize them and highlight the economic impact in their respective communities, state, and nation; and

WHEREAS: Black Philanthropy Month (BPM) also observed in August of each year, is a global celebration and concerted campaign created by Dr. Jackie Bouvier Copeland and the Pan-African Women's Philanthropy Network (PAWPNet) in 2011 to illuminate the ingenuity and transformative impact of Black generosity and promote increased investment in Black communities; and

WHEREAS: The U.S. Minority Business Development Agency estimates the 2.6 million Black-owned businesses in the United States generates approximately \$150 billion each year; and

WHEREAS: Black-owned businesses account for 10 percent; and of US businesses and approximately 30 percent of all minority-owned businesses, according to the US Census Bureau; and

WHEREAS: Nearly 40 percent of Black-owned businesses are in healthcare and social services, repair and maintenance, laundry services and other categories including advertising firms, auto dealerships, consulting services, restaurants, barber shops, beauty salons, and more; and

WHEREAS: August 2019, the Greater Savannah Black Chamber of Commerce (GSBCC), headquartered in Savannah, GA. and serving the Savannah and surrounding areas was established. GSBCC is inducted into the Georgia Coalition of Black Chambers (GCBC). GSBCC mission is to empower and educate African- American and other minorities, and women owned businesses in the Savannah Metropolitan and surrounding areas that will foster a thriving and sustainable business environment; and

WHEREAS: Black Chambers throughout Georgia and the Southern Region will advocate for businesses and ensure they receive their fair share of equity as mandated in the Biden Administration's White House Executive Order 13985 On Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government and Executive Order 14050 Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Black Americans.

Now, THEREFORE, I Van R. Johnson, II , Mayor of the City of Savannah, do hereby proclaim August , 2022 as :

“National Black Business and Black Philanthropy Month “

in the City of Savannah, Georgia and urge all citizens to recognize the valuable contribution and importance of black businesses to our community and economy.