**South Carolina General Assembly**

119th Session, 2011-2012

**A131, R138, S1196**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senators Jackson, Ford, Courson, Hutto, Williams, Sheheen, Massey, Lourie, McGill, Scott, Nicholson, Matthews, Anderson, Gregory, Coleman, Setzler, Rankin and Malloy

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Introduced in the Senate on February 8, 2012

Introduced in the House on February 29, 2012

Passed by the General Assembly on March 7, 2012

Governor's Action: March 13, 2012, Signed

Summary: African American History Month

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

2/8/2012 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\02-08-12.docx))

2/8/2012 Senate Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 7](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\02-08-12.docx))

2/10/2012 Senate Referred to Subcommittee: Cleary (ch), Ford, S.Martin, Gregory

2/22/2012 Senate Committee report: Favorable **Judiciary** ([Senate Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\02-22-12.docx))

2/23/2012 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 41](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\02-23-12.docx))

2/23/2012 Senate Roll call Ayes‑31 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 41](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\02-23-12.docx))

2/23/2012 Scrivener's error corrected

2/28/2012 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 23](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\02-28-12.docx))

2/29/2012 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 11](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\02-29-12.docx))

2/29/2012 House Referred to Committee on **Invitations and Memorial Resolutions** ([House Journal‑page 11](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\02-29-12.docx))

3/1/2012 House Committee report: Favorable **Invitations and Memorial Resolutions** ([House Journal‑page 2](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\03-01-12.docx))

3/6/2012 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\03-06-12.docx))

3/6/2012 House Roll call Yeas‑91 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\03-06-12.docx))

3/7/2012 House Read third time and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 12](file:///h:\hj%20archive\2012\03-07-12.docx))

3/7/2012 Ratified R 138 ([Senate Journal‑page 12](file:///h:\sj%20archive\2012\03-07-12.docx))

3/13/2012 Signed By Governor

3/16/2012 Effective date 03/13/12

3/16/2012 Act No. 131

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[2/8/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\1196_20120208.docx)

[2/22/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\1196_20120222.docx)

[2/23/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\1196_20120223.docx)

[3/1/2012](file:///p:\pprever\2011-12\1196_20120301.docx)

(A131, R138, S1196)

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 1‑1‑616 SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY OF EVERY YEAR IS DESIGNATED AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH IN SOUTH CAROLINA.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Findings**

SECTION 1. The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Black History Month, now to be designated as African American History Month in South Carolina, began as “Negro History Week”, which was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher. It became a month‑long celebration in 1976. The month of February was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln;

(2) African Americans of all generations have contributed greatly to the growth, development, culture, and institutions of the United States; and

(3) to declare the month of February of each year as African American History Month in our State to honor the significant contributions to our country of these outstanding individuals.

**African American History Month designated**

SECTION 2. Article 9, Chapter 1, Title 1 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 1‑1‑616. The month of February of every year is also designated African American History Month in South Carolina to be observed concurrently with American History Month as provided in Section 1‑1‑615, but with emphasis on the contributions of African Americans to the growth, development, culture, and institutions of our country. South Carolinians are encouraged to sponsor and participate in appropriate observances of African American History Month.”

**Time effective**

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 7th day of March, 2012.

Approved the 13th day of March, 2012.

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