



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-2521/1
CMH:klm

2021 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 20

March 16, 2021 - Introduced by Senator JOHNSON. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming February 2021 as Black History Month and honoring past
2 and current black legislators.

3 Whereas, Black History Month provides a deliberate opportunity to reflect on
4 the common humanity underlying all people and to raise awareness and foster
5 respect for the heritage and contributions of people of African descent; and

6 Whereas, this year marks over 400 years since the arrival of enslaved Africans
7 in Virginia. The existence of Africans in North America can be traced back to 1525,
8 and through 1866 the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade is estimated to have ensnared
9 more than 12 million African people, with an estimated 10 million surviving the
10 unconscionable Middle Passage, landing in North America, the Caribbean, and
11 South America; and

12 Whereas, Wisconsin history first references African descendants in a speech
13 given in 1725 by a chief of the Illinois Indians, in which he said, “a negro belonging
14 to Monsieur de Boisbriant” at Green Bay; and

1 **Mattie Reese**—community activist;

2 **Sadie Pearson**—grassroots community activist;

3 **ATHLETE**

4 **Henry Louis “Hank” Aaron**—professional baseball player for the Milwaukee
5 Braves and Brewers;

6 **RELIGIOUS LEADER**

7 **Dr. Apostle Bishop Godfrey A. Stubbs**—Senior Pastor of End Times
8 Ministries International;

9 **GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS**

10 **Vice President Kamala Devi Harris**—first woman and African American
11 vice president of the United States;

12 **Stacey Yvonne Abrams**—American politician, lawyer, voting rights activist,
13 and author who served in the Georgia House of Representatives;

14 **VICTIMS AND FAMILIES OF POLICE BRUTALITY**

15 **Jacob Blake Jr., Jacob Blake Sr., and Justin Blake**—a Black father of
16 three who was shot in the back seven times by a Kenosha police officer in front of his
17 children, and his father and uncle, who have taken on public advocacy roles for police
18 reform;

19 **Tony Robinson**—an unarmed 19-year-old Madison young Black man who
20 was killed by Madison police during a “check person” call placed by his concerned
21 friends and bystanders;

22 **Alvin Cole**—a 17-year-old Black teenager who was shot and killed by
23 Wauwatosa police while on his hands and knees;

24 **Sylville Smith**—a 23-year-old Black father of one who was shot in the back
25 and killed by Milwaukee police following a traffic stop for “suspicious behavior”;

