



CITY OF EASTHAMPTON
OFFICE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Easthampton Municipal Building
50 Payson Ave., Ste. 100
Easthampton, Massachusetts 01027-2260
Telephone #: (413) 529-1400, ext. 460
Fax #: (413) 529-1417

**An Easthampton City Council resolution to pass the Commission to Study and Develop
Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act.**

WHEREAS, the City Council acknowledges, condemns, and expresses regret for the role past residents throughout the Pioneer Valley played in the enslavement of Black individuals, and recognizes the ongoing detrimental impacts experienced by the Black residents of Easthampton as a result of the enslavement of their ancestors, and

WHEREAS, the institution of Slavery in the Americas was a historically unique institution of human atrocity, and that the particular experience of Easthampton's Black community cannot be removed from the impact of these horrific particularities; and

WHEREAS, residents of the City of Easthampton should be made aware of the history of enslaved individuals living in the Pioneer Valley and we have a responsibility to rectify the lasting impact of this institution on Black people within our community, the Commonwealth, and the country; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 40 and S. 40, both known as the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act, seek to examine the fundamental injustice of slavery perpetuated in the United States for over 200 years until 1865, and consider options for reparations; and

WHEREAS, The reparations commission that the bill seeks to establish would study the history of slavery, the role federal and state governments played in supporting slavery, and racial discrimination against the descendants of enslaved Africans; and

WHEREAS, The commission would be able to make recommendations regarding compensation and atonement for slavery. This is an essential step in the reconciliation for the criminality of American slavery and better understanding of its lasting effects; and




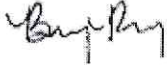





WHEREAS, This legislation is already supported by numerous prominent organizations including Human Rights Watch, the ACLU, Amnesty International, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, the NAACP, and American Descendants of Slavery; and

WHEREAS, racial injustice is at the forefront of national conversation, continued actions need to be taken in order for the federal government to begin to make amends for the historic state-sponsored violence against Black people, and the decades of systemic racial discrimination that followed.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Easthampton City Council recommends that the Congress pass H.R. 40 and S. 40, the Commission to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African-Americans Act, and requests our Congressional leaders, Rep. Richard Neal, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, and Sen. Ed Markey to support this legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the city clerk shall cause a copy of this resolution to be sent to Representative Richard Neal, Senator Elizabeth Warren, and Senator Ed Markey.

Dated this 7th day of December, 2022.

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CITY COUNCIL

In accordance with Section 3-7 of the Easthampton Home Rule Charter, the following order, resolution or vote adopted by the City Council is presented to the Mayor for approval:



Nicole M. LaChapelle

12/20/2022

DATE: _____