



2019 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 66

June 20, 2019 - Introduced by Representatives BOWEN and HAYWOOD. Referred to Committee on Rules.

1 **Relating to:** proclaiming June as Caribbean-American Heritage Month in
2 Wisconsin.

3 Whereas, the mission of Caribbean-American Heritage Month is to promote
4 the vibrant and rich culture of the Caribbean-American people and their unique
5 contribution to the United States on a national level; and

6 Whereas, this year marks the 13th anniversary of June as National
7 Caribbean-American Heritage Month; and

8 Whereas, the Institute of Caribbean Studies began petitioning for recognition
9 of a Caribbean-American Heritage Month to President Bill Clinton in 1999; and

10 Whereas, Congresswoman Barbara Lee first introduced House Resolution 570
11 in the United States House of Representatives on March 14, 2004, proposing that
12 Caribbean-American Heritage Month be recognized at a federal level; and

13 Whereas, this resolution was reintroduced the following session and was
14 passed by the House of Representatives in June 2005 and by the Senate in February
15 2006; and

1 Whereas, a Proclamation recognizing the passage of the resolution was signed
2 by President George H.W. Bush on June 5, 2006, making federal recognition of
3 Caribbean-American Heritage Month official; and

4 Whereas, the United States' Caribbean-American population is approximately
5 4.4 million people, with communities of Puerto Rican, Jamaican, Haitian, Cuban,
6 and Dominican descent making up the largest part of the Caribbean-American
7 population; and

8 Whereas, the 30 Under 30 Caribbean-American Emerging Leaders/Change
9 Makers Award is presented to individuals demonstrating leadership in the United
10 States, a country in CARICOM, or a British, French, or Dutch Dependency; and

11 Whereas, people of Caribbean-American descent have made significant
12 differences in their respective fields, such as:

13 •Clarie Alicia Nelson — founder of the Institute of Caribbean Studies, who is
14 also the first Jamaican woman to earn a Doctorate degree in an engineering
15 discipline;

16 •Colin Powell — the first black U.S Secretary of State, whose parents were born
17 in Jamaica;

18 •Jean Baptiste Point du Sable — founder of Chicago, born in Haiti;

19 •Antonia Novello — the first female U.S. Surgeon General, born in Puerto Rico;

20 •Alexander Hamilton — the first Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, born in Nevis;

21 •Stokley Carmichael — a black power activist, born in Trinidad;

22 •Marion Jones — a track and field Olympic gold medalist, whose parents are
23 from Belize;

