

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2015  
“EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION AWARENESS MONTH”

WHEREAS, on January 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation which declared that within those territories in active rebellion, “all persons held as slaves shall be ....forever free”;

WHEREAS, the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation was a major step toward the abolition of slavery, helping to renew this nation's founding philosophy of human liberty;

WHEREAS, April 2015 marks the 150<sup>th</sup> (sesquicentennial) anniversary of the end of the Civil War;

WHEREAS, the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection at the Indiana State Museum includes an 1864 copy of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln;

WHEREAS, Lincoln Financial Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Lincoln Financial Group has arranged for this rare document and other artifacts to be loaned to the City of Greensboro and Greensboro Historical Museum;

WHEREAS, the Greensboro Historical Museum will be exhibiting the Emancipation Proclamation as part of an exhibit entitled “Emancipation Proclamation: Voices to Freedom” from March 28 to April 26<sup>th</sup>;

WHEREAS, the Sesquicentennial Planning Committee has worked with the Greensboro Historical Museum, International Civil Rights Museum, Guilford County Schools, United Way and other community organizations in planning ways to engage the citizens of the City in the study of this historic document.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO

That it hereby declares the Month of April 2015, “Emancipation Proclamation Awareness Month” to encourage the celebration of the spirit of freedom, equality and justice for all by all citizens of Greensboro.