Resolution of the City of Atlantic City

No. 565

Council Member SHABAZZ Presents the following Resolution:

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE ENACTMENT OF ASSEMBLY BILL A938/S386, THE "NEW JERSEY REPARATIONS TASK FORCE ACT"

WHEREAS, NEW JERSEY, though a northern state, has deep roots in the institution of slavery, also called the “slave state of the North”; and

WHEREAS, NEW JERSEY’S history of slavery and the generations of structural racism that followed are directly tied to vast racial disparities today, which are some of the worst in the country. A Black child is almost 18 times more likely to be locked up than a white child, even though they commit most offenses at similar rates. The Black to white infant mortality rate is over 3 to 1, the highest disparity in the nation; and

WHEREAS, A Reparations Task Force is needed in New Jersey to gather experts from around the state to study New Jersey’s often overlooked and deep involvement in slavery. It will recommend strategic and achievable policies that invest in Black communities; and

WHEREAS, At a time when efforts are happening across the country to shut down conversations about slavery and racism, it will call for community meetings across the state learn how to repair the harm; and

WHEREAS, The Reparations campaign led by the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice that is spreading the call for a reparations task force throughout New Jersey. In support of these efforts, New Jersey’s own Lieutenant Governor Sheila Oliver has said that “the conversation has to be about reparations.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Atlantic City hereby supports A938/S386 in endorsing a Reparations Task Force in New Jersey.

October 31, 2022 1:19 PM

This is a Certified True copy of the Original Resolution on file in the City Clerk's Office.

DATE OF ADOPTION: SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

/s/ Paula Geletei, City Clerk