

BY ALDS. HAMILTON, COGGS, STAMPER, BORKOWSKI, WITKOWSKI, PEREZ,
LEWIS, RAINEY, JOHNSON, DODD

Commendation recognizing Dr. James Cameron on the 105th anniversary of his birth.

WHEREAS,

DR. JAMES CAMERON

was remembered for his lifetime of civil rights work and his many contributions to the City of Milwaukee on the 105th anniversary of his birth; and

WHEREAS, *Dr. James Cameron was born February 25, 1914 in La Crosse, Wisconsin, and spent his childhood in Birmingham, Alabama and Kokomo, Indiana and eventually moved to Marion, Indiana where at the age of 16 he was falsely accused of participating in the murder of a young white man in Marion and was sentenced to five years in prison; and*

WHEREAS, *Dr. James Cameron, the only known survivor of a lynching in America, made it his life's mission to educate America about the racial atrocities he witnessed throughout his lifetime and became a noted civil rights activist and author, self-taught historian, public speaker and consciousness-raiser; and*

WHEREAS, *Dr. James Cameron published a book about his lynching titled A Time of Terror: A Survivor's Story and was an honored guest of the U.S. Senate in 2005 when 80 Senators passed a resolution apologizing for never outlawing lynching; and*

WHEREAS, *Dr. James Cameron opened America's Black Holocaust Museum in 1988 in Milwaukee and it served as a testament to his life's work of educating the public on the legacy of slavery in America and encouraging reconciliation and healing of racial injustices; and*

WHEREAS, *Dr. James Cameron's lasting impact on Milwaukee continues to be honored and cherished with the reopening of a brand new America's Black Holocaust Museum at 401 W. North Ave., which received \$400,000 in donations to keep Dr. Cameron's legacy alive; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *That the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith recognizes the life of Dr. James Cameron, who made many positive contributions during his life toward his dream of an America free of the evils of racism, and celebrates his legacy on the 105th anniversary of his birth; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *That a suitably engrossed copy of this commendation be presented to the family of Dr. James Cameron.*

Introduced by Common Council members Milele A. Coggs, Ashanti Hamilton, Russell W. Stamper, II, Mark A. Borkowski, Terry L. Witkowski, José G. Pérez, Chantia Lewis, Khalif J. Rainey, Cavalier Johnson and Nikiya Dodd, and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on March 26, 2019.