

Official Proclamation

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WHEREAS, The City of Ketchikan, Alaska affirms the principals of equality and inclusion for all people in the State of Alaska and the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ketchikan recognizes that Martin Luther King, Jr. be honored for stirring Americans of every race and creed to work for the end of discrimination, racism and inequality in America; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ketchikan recognizes that every citizen in the United States of America and Alaska shall have the opportunity to build a better and brighter future; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ketchikan recognizes the magnitude of the progress that has been made; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ketchikan recognizes that we must continue to express the hopes and expectations of Dr. King's work and we must remain vigilant with the same iron will and hope in our hearts; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ketchikan recognizes that on this day we acknowledge the hard work of those who continue to carry his message and work to understand the pain of others and assume the best in each other; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ketchikan recognizes that we have yet to realize Dr. King's dream and have much work to do at a time when our politics are so sharply polarized and people are losing faith in our institutions, and

WHEREAS, The City of Ketchikan in 2023 will draw on the lessons of our past so we can ensure the flame of justice continues to shine and will work to right injustice within our community; and

WHEREAS, That Dr. King reminds us that change has always relied on the willingness of our people to keep marching forward together and that unconditional love will have the final word, and that only love can drive out hate.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Dave Kiffer, Mayor of the City of Ketchikan, Alaska, do hereby proclaim from this day forward

January 16, 2023 as Dr. Martin Luther King Day

and encourage all residents to pay tribute to Dr. King and urge all Americans to his call to action for equality, freedom and protection for all. In the words for the great Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

Signed this 5th day of January, 2023

Dave Kiffer, Mayor

City of Ketchikan, Alaska