

## CITY OF PORTLAND

*Whereas*, the State of Oregon through vote by mail and the recently adopted Motor Voter bill has led the nation in voter access, and

*Whereas*, the Portland community commemorates and celebrates the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and

*Whereas*, the Voting Rights Act was signed on August 6, 1965 by President Lyndon Baines Johnson, after a long and protracted effort by civil rights activists and organizations; and

*Whereas*, the Fifteenth Amendment to the Constitution made voting legal for all citizens of color, but many black Americans were still forced to encounter literacy tests, poll taxes, tests of moral character, and property ownership; and

*Whereas*, the Voting Rights Act helps to provide the federal government with a more hands-on role in ensuring that the Fifteenth Amendment could be enforced properly; and

*Whereas*, the law has been amended frequently since, often to the detriment of minority voters who still face obstacles to voting today; and

*Whereas*, the City of Portland would like to recognize the League of Minority Voters (LMV) and their dedication to promoting the value of civic engagement within our communities of color and focusing on policy issues that continue to marginalize these communities; and

*Whereas*, The Voting Rights Act still remains one of the foundational pieces of legislation that confront issues of inequality in civic engagement;

*Now, Therefore*, I, Charlie Hales, Mayor of the City of Portland, Oregon, the “City of Roses,” do hereby proclaim August 6<sup>th</sup> to be

### *Voting Rights Day*

in Portland, and encourage all residents to educate themselves on the disparities many voters of color face and to recognize the progress being made towards equality in our democracy.



CITY OF  
**PORTLAND, OREGON**

**Dan Saltzman, Commissioner**  
1221 S.W. 4th Avenue, Room 230  
Portland, Oregon 97204  
Telephone: (503) 823-4151  
Fax: (503) 823-3036  
dan@portlandoregon.gov

DATE: July 30, 2015

TO: Mayor Charlie Hales  
Commissioner Nick Fish  
Commissioner Amanda Fritz  
Commissioner Steve Novick  
Auditor Mary Hull Caballero

FROM: Commissioner Dan Saltzman 

SUBJECT: Proclaim August 6th, 2015 to be Voting Rights Day in Portland

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Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to introduce members of the League of Minority Voters to talk about the history and significance of the Voting Rights Act, and the local efforts being made to achieve voter equality.

Please join me in welcoming them and, on this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, encouraging all residents to learn this important history.

Sincerely,

  
Dan Saltzman

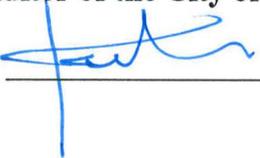
Proclaim August 6, 2015 to be Voting Rights Day in Portland (Proclamation introduced by Mayor Hales and Commissioner Saltzman)

AUG 05 2015

PLACED ON FILE

Filed JUL 31 2015

**MARY HULL CABALLERO**  
Auditor of the City of Portland

By 

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Saltzman		
4. Novick		
Hales		