

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 6th 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

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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

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 50th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, encouraging all residents to learn this important history.

Sincerely,


Dan Saltzman

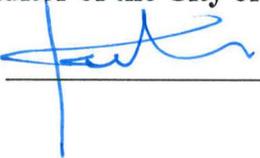
Proclaim August 6, 2015 to be Voting Rights Day in Portland (Proclamation introduced by Mayor Hales and Commissioner Saltzman)

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		