



WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Shelia Stubbs

77TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 1st, 2023

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Happy Black History Month!

MADISON, WI – Today, we begin Black History Month. Representative Shelia Stubbs (D-Madison) released the following statement:

“Happy Black History Month! Each February, we highlight and celebrate the countless contributions Black Americans have made throughout our nation’s history. We acknowledge the historical injustices faced by this community and recognize the strength of Black Americans who have fought hard for their freedoms in the face of constant adversity. We honor those who have participated in the social justice movements that have resulted in the empowerment of Black Americans and have advanced overall social progress for all marginalized communities.”

“We often fail to realize how closely connected we are to the truly remarkable historical sites in which Black justice and liberation were stimulated and protected. This past month, I had the honor of visiting the Milton House Museum in Milton, Wisconsin, a certified Underground Railroad Station. The historical significance of the Underground Railroad cannot be overstated. During a time in which Black individuals were dehumanized and subject to enslavement, a brave network of people formed that would aid in the liberation of an estimated 100,000 souls.

“At the Milton House, a site that once hosted legendary abolitionist Sojourner Truth, I had the opportunity to tour the same spaces that had once hid runaway enslaved persons on their journey to freedom. It is impossible to fully capture in words the profound feeling of occupying a site that was partially responsible for the liberation of so many Black individuals. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to tour the



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Milton House and urge all Wisconsinites to do the same in their efforts to understand our state's role in these historical Black liberation projects.”

“It is extremely important that we dedicate this month to Black history and take this time to advance our knowledge of the matter but let us remind ourselves that we benefit from the contributions of Black Americans not just in February, but every day of the year. As such, we must always make an effort to know our nation's troublesome history and legacy of racism and remind ourselves never to shy away from the hard truths of the past and present. Black liberation is born out of love for our people, our communities, and our culture. It is a deep desire to exist liberated in a social world that so often devalues and rejects us and is marked by the strength and resilience of every generation that came before us and fought hard for the liberties we now enjoy. Importantly, Black liberation is an ongoing project and one that can only be successful when every American learns and appreciates Black history.”