Be it RESOLVED that the South Portland City Council adopt the following statement:

WHEREAS, the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. has inspired this country and the world with his vision and dedication to freedom and equality; and

WHEREAS, Martin Luther King, Jr. became the voice of the American civil rights movement in the 1950s and 1960s with eloquent speeches and nonviolent action that resulted in the landmark legislation known as the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, the voice of Martin Luther King, Jr. has persevered, and his faith and courage in proclaiming the message of liberty and justice for all lives on; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King’s vision for Equality, Black Liberation and Human Rights continues to inspire and motivate millions of people in the Black Lives Matter Movement here in South Portland, across this country and around the world; and

WHEREAS, federal legislation, signed into law on November 2, 1983, established a legal holiday to be celebrated on the third Monday in January to honor the life of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr., who was born on January 15, 1929.

NOW, THEREFORE, the South Portland City Council hereby observes Monday, January 17, 2022 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Fiscal Note: Less than $1,000

Dated: January 11, 2022