



Text File

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Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, the **Black Political Empowerment Project (B-PEP)**, one of Pittsburgh's premiere community collaborative organizations is celebrating a musical "fun-raiser;" and,

WHEREAS, **B-PEP** was launched on May 21, 1986, with the goal of increasing awareness, within the African American community, of the need to **VOTE** in **EACH** and **EVERY** election; and,

WHEREAS, **Black Political Empowerment Project ("B-PEP")**, was launched on May 21, 1986, primarily as a volunteer organization which relies upon the dedication of people who donate an incredible number of hours to an organization that they truly believe in because of its ability to "uplift" our communities by providing "hope" and a sense of purpose; and,

WHEREAS, **B-PEP** promotes citizen engagement campaigns, such as the **Greater Pittsburgh Coalition Against Violence (CAV)** aimed at decreasing violence within the region and the **Corporate Equity & Inclusion Roundtable (CEIR)**, the purpose of which is to increase employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for African-Americans and people of color; and,

WHEREAS, Since 2006, to raise awareness of the organization and its programs, the **Black Political Empowerment Project** has hosted **B-PEP JAZZ**, a six hour jazz marathon which features many of Pittsburgh's most talented musicians and vocalists that is also a part of **National Jazz Appreciation Month**; and,

WHEREAS, City Council also acknowledges the important partnership of **Mellon Jazz & BNY Mellon** with **B-PEP JAZZ** since its inception in 2006, as well as that of the **Pittsburgh Jazz Society** and warmly welcomes the new partnership of **WZUM-the Pittsburgh Jazz Channel** in this year's celebration; and the leadership of this year's B-PEP JAZZ Host Committee Chair, Carol Neyland, Vice President Community Development, Dollar Bank, and,

WHEREAS, the **Black Political Empowerment Project** is celebrating its 31st anniversary this year with a variety of events; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Monday, April 17, 2017 to be "**Black Political Empowerment Project Day**" in the City of Pittsburgh.