PROCLAMATION

Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, on August 6,1965 President Lyndon B Johnson signed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 into law; and

WHEREAS, the right to vote is a key building block of democracy ensuring that every U.S. citizen is given the right to help shape our country's future; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton acknowledges the extensive contributions of the many ordinary citizens who fought valiantly to end all race-based restrictions to the franchise. These include Appletonian Jim Zwerg who in 1961 traveled to Montgomery, Alabama, alongside Black activists including John Lewis, and was brutally attacked at the bus terminal; and

WHEREAS, Appleton civic groups like the League of Women Voters, American Association of University Women, Women's Action Coalition and others have persistently championed voter access through legal education initiatives, voter education drives, and on-the-ground registration efforts; and

WHEREAS, all residents are called upon to honor the spirit of the Voting Rights Act by registering to vote, engaging in the democratic process and advocating for the protection of voting rights for all; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton reaffirms its commitment to eliminating barriers to voting for all its citizens and reaffirms its commitment to promoting fair, secure and accessible elections.

NOW THEREFORE I, JACOB A. WOODFORD, Mayor of the City of Appleton, do hereby proclaim August 6, 2026, as the

Voting Rights Act Day

in the City of Appleton, and encourage all residents to honor this historic milestone by exercising their right to vote.

Signed and sealed this 6th day of August 2026:

JACOB A. WOODFORD
MAYOR OF APPLETON

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