

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, on August 28, 1963, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. forever changed the nation and the world with his "I Have a Dream" speech, delivered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom; and

**WHEREAS**, this significant event in American and world history took place 50 years ago today, and the civil rights legacy of Dr. King and his poignant words continue to shape our society; and

**WHEREAS**, many Burlington and Vermont residents had their lives changed by attending the March on Washington 50 years ago and hearing Dr. King's words, and today there are returning and new members of our communities in Washington for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration; and

**WHEREAS**, Bernice King, daughter of Dr. King and CEO of The King Center, has asked that participating communities "bring people together across cultural and political lines to celebrate the common humanity in creative and uplifting ways in the spirit of the dream" on this commemorative day; and

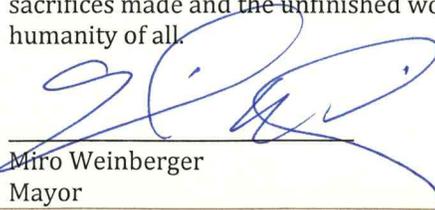
**WHEREAS**, the dream of Dr. King still is yet to be fully realized that we will "live in a nation where [our children] will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character"; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. King's historic speech challenged our nation to "Let freedom ring. And when this happens, when we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God's children - black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics - will be able to join hands and sing in the words of the old Negro spiritual: 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!'"

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Miro Weinberger, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby proclaim that August 28, 2013 be recognized as

### "I HAVE A DREAM" DAY

in the City of Burlington to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s speech, and further proclaim that Burlington join cities across the nation and around the globe in letting freedom ring from our bell towers at 3:00pm to remind us of the sacrifices made and the unfinished work of realizing the equal rights and common humanity of all.

  
Miro Weinberger  
Mayor

