

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus and a member of the National Museum of African American History and Culture Council, released the following statement in honor of Black History Month:

**“From Crispus Attucks to the men and women serving in our armed forces today, from Sojourner Truth to Rosa Parks, from Frederick Douglas to Martin Luther King Jr., and from the 43 members of the Congressional Black Caucus to President Barack Obama, the legacy of the African American community is one that we can all admire and celebrate.**

**This February, I am especially proud to know that our nation will see a monumental step in ensuring that the African American experience is better enshrined in the story of our nation’s history. I congratulate the wonderful people leading the Smithsonian Institution as they prepare for this month’s ground-breaking ceremony of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which will join our nation’s recently-inaugurated Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial. I look forward to the day in 2015 when Americans and visitors from throughout the world can walk through the museum’s doors to more fully experience our nation’s past while also being inspired by what we can become.”**