

WisDems: Weekly Democratic radio address

Posted on Thursday, Feb 20, 2020

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MADISON, WI – Senator LaTonya Johnson (D-Milwaukee) offered the Democratic weekly radio address regarding the celebration of Black History Month.

“This month, let us remember and celebrate those who came before us to promote equality and justice. Let us also remember that each and every one of us has the power to create change for the better, no matter how big or small.” – Senator LaTonya Johnson

The audio file of this week’s address can be found here:

<http://legis.wisconsin.gov/senate/democrats/media/1327/senjohnsonradio022020mp3.mp3>

A written transcript of the address is below:

“Hello. I’m State Senator LaTonya Johnson.

“The celebration of Black History Month every February is not only an acknowledgment of the contributions of the many African Americans who helped pave the way for the rest of us, but also a nod that representation matters. All of our children deserve to see versions of themselves in our leaders. When we have leaders with varied experiences, we are able to promote a society that values and celebrates all of our differences.

That was one of the messages Matthew A. Cherry promoted in his now Oscar-winning video short ‘Hair Love.’ During his acceptance speech earlier this month, Cherry said, ‘Hair Love was done so we could see more representation in animation and to normalize black hair.’

Leaders across the country are promoting this very idea through legislation like the CROWN Act, otherwise known as the 'Create a Respectful and Open Workplace for Natural Hair' Act. I am proud to have co-authored similar legislation right here in the state of Wisconsin. This bill adds discrimination based on hairstyle to our state's anti-discrimination laws.

This month, let us remember and celebrate those who came before us to promote equality and justice. Let us also remember that *each and every one of us has the power to create change for the better, no matter how big or small. Remember that there is leadership and guidance all around us - we just need to take the time to look around.*

This month, and every month, is all about executing the vision we all have for ourselves and for the next generation through celebrating our history and recommitting ourselves to the work that remains.

Thank you.”