RESOLUTION

Whereas, LUCILLE BYARD, was the daughter of Jesse and Harriet M. Cox, and

Whereas, LUCILLE BYARD, was the wife of James Henry Byard, and

Whereas, LUCILLE BYARD, a Seventh-day Adventist, desired to be treated for liver cancer with a chronic case of cachexia at the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital in Takoma Park, Maryland, a Seventh-day Adventist institution, and

Whereas, LUCILLE BYARD, was denied admission to the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital because of the color of her skin and not because of her faith, and

Whereas, LUCILLE BYARD, died at Freedman’s Hospital in Washington, D.C. from complications of her illness more than a month later (Oct. 30, 1943) after being denied admission to the Washington Sanitarium and Hospital, and

Whereas, LUCILLE BYARD’S, tragic mistreatment initiated an uproar in the Black Adventist Community and led to the formation of the Committee for the Advancement of World-Wide Work Among Seventh-day Adventists, widely regarded as the first organized protests among Black American Adventists Laypersons, and

Whereas, LUCILLE BYARD, sparked the Seventh-day Adventist church to take action to address racial inequities and her death was the catalyst that led to the formation of regional conferences, and

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Conscience & Justice Council hereby proclaims Oct. 30 as LUCILLE BYARD DAY as the clarion call to increase awareness and remedy all forms of discrimination within the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Conscience & Justice Council continues the call to address liberty of conscience and social justice according to the Word of God.

ISSUED by the Conscience & Justice Council this 24th day of October 2018.

Edward Woods III, Chairperson
Cryston Josiah, Secretary
Stephen Brooks
Mark Brown
Byron Dulan
Preston Foster
Martin Lister

Jerome Hurst, Vice Chairperson
Dedrick Blue
Lawrence Brown
Jackson Doggette, Jr.
Moses Edwards
Auldwin Humphrey
Kingsley Palmer