WHEREAS, contracting and purchasing professionals play a vital role in the efficiency and effectiveness of purchasing goods and services for both government and the private sector; and

WHEREAS, purchasing and material management professionals spend billions of dollars each year and work diligently to maintain ethical standards and efficient procurement methods; and

WHEREAS, today's technology helps purchasing professionals be more efficient, provide better services to internal and external customers, and contribute to the growth of our economy; and

WHEREAS, in addition to purchasing products services, procurement professionals execute, implement and manage contracts, and cultivate relationships with suppliers and other organizations; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington DC Chapter of the National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP) and other purchasing organizations in the District of Columbia will and engage in efforts throughout the month to inform the public about the important role purchasing professionals perform:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim March 2021 in Washington, DC, as "PURCHASING MONTH.")