

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 1821

A RESOLUTION commemorating the 100th anniversary of the founding of the NAACP.

WHEREAS, The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or the NAACP, was established on February 12, 1909 (the centennial of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln) in New York City by W.E.B. Du Bois and other members of the Niagara Movement; and

WHEREAS, Publicizing the issue of equality through lobbying efforts through the court system, the media and mainstream press and through other organizations is the advocacy of the NAACP; and

WHEREAS, The NAACP's successful struggles against injustices include:

- organizing a nationwide protest of D.W. Griffith's racially inflammatory and bigoted and silent film, *Birth of a Nation*
- defeating a grandfather clause that was used against black voters in the South in 1915 and an all-white primary in 1927
- making it possible for African Americans to be commissioned as officers in World War I, leading to 600 African Americans receiving commissions
- NAACP lawyers Charles Hamilton Houston and Thurgood Marshall winning the legal battle to admit a black student to the University of Maryland in 1935
- moving the concert of acclaimed soprano Marian Anderson to the Lincoln Memorial, where over 75,000 people attended, after the Daughters of the Revolution barred her from performing at Constitution Hall in Washington D.C.
- persuading President Harry Truman to sign an Executive Order in 1948 that banned discrimination by the federal government
- successfully arguing the case of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* in front of the United States Supreme Court. Considered the NAACP's greatest legal victory, the case was presented by future United States Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall and found that state laws that separated public schools for black and white students denied *all* children equal educational opportunities
- serving as the catalyst for the largest grassroots Civil Rights Movement to date, when NAACP member Rosa Parks was arrested and fined for refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama in 1955
- organizing the first ever sit-ins at segregated lunch counters in the Docum Drug Store in Wichita, Kansas in 1958; these sit-ins became the model used across the nation in later years
- obtaining passage of the Civil Rights Act in 1964
- registering more than 80,000 voters in the Old South after passage of the Voting Rights Act in 1965
- initiating the first bill ever signed by a governor that allows voter registration in high schools in 1979, benefitting both African Americans and white high school seniors
- leading a massive anti-apartheid rally in New York in 1985
- establishing television diversity agreements with the entertainment industry and organizing a march of more than 50,000 people to protest the flying of the Confederate battle flag in Columbia, South Carolina in 2000, the largest Civil Rights demonstration ever held in the South; and

WHEREAS, Throughout the history of the Civil Rights movement the NAACP has been a leader and has been instrumental to social progress and equality: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we commemorate the 100th anniversary of the founding of the NAACP and the cause of Civil Rights for which it has advocated for 100 years; and

*Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to provide one enrolled copy of this resolution to Senator David Haley and one to Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau.

Senate Resolution No. 1821 was sponsored by Senators David Haley and Oletha Faust-Goudeau.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the SENATE, and was adopted by that body

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*President of the Senate.*

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*Secretary of the Senate.*