

SENATE RESOLUTION

8671

By Senators Lovick, Cleveland, Valdez, Rivers, Keiser, Van De Wege, Kuderer, Holy, Wellman, Nobles, Hasegawa, Trudeau, Mullet, Saldaña, Hunt, Shewmake, Pedersen, Robinson, Boehnke, Kauffman, Lovelett, Fortunato, Salomon, Wagoner, Billig, and C. Wilson

1           WHEREAS, The enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 stands as  
2 one of the most important legislative achievements in American  
3 history and a defining milestone of our nation's ongoing fight for  
4 racial justice and equity; and

5           WHEREAS, 2024 marks the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act,  
6 today we commemorate this law which has transformed the fabric of our  
7 nation by prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color,  
8 religion, sex, or national origin, and facilitated the desegregation  
9 of schools and other public facilities; and

10          WHEREAS, The progress of civil rights and racial justice since  
11 the Act's passage has been a journey of resilience, inviting us to  
12 celebrate the successes and honor the hardships and sacrifices that  
13 have paved the way to a more just society; and

14          WHEREAS, Acknowledging the ongoing fight for civil rights allows  
15 us to honor the leaders and citizens whose sacrifice has created  
16 significant progress in the pursuit of justice, while recognizing  
17 that there is more work ahead on the road towards a more racially  
18 just United States of America; and

19          WHEREAS, Confronted with bigotry, fear, and hatred, the bravery  
20 of these champions for civil rights stirred our Nation's moral  
21 conscience; and

22          WHEREAS, The Civil Rights Act has demonstrated the profound  
23 ability of legislation to foster lasting change, paving the way for

1 further laws that strengthened voting rights and established  
2 fair housing standards for all Americans; and

3 WHEREAS, Building on the remarkable achievements of figures  
4 like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Congressman John Lewis, Justice  
5 Thurgood Marshall, and Rosa Parks, the journey towards fully  
6 securing life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for every  
7 individual continues, underscoring the necessity of ongoing  
8 efforts to achieve our ideals of equality and justice for all;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, During the inauguration of the Smithsonian National  
11 Museum of African American History and Culture in September  
12 2016, former President George W. Bush remarked, "A great nation  
13 does not hide its history. It faces its flaws and corrects  
14 them."; and

15 WHEREAS, The passage of the Civil Rights Act represented a  
16 turning point in the United States' history of racism and  
17 bigotry, and illuminated the path forward in our ongoing quest  
18 for justice and equality, highlighting the importance of  
19 vigilance, advocacy, and proactive legislative efforts to forge  
20 a society that reflects our highest ideals of fairness and  
21 inclusivity; and

22 WHEREAS, Civil rights are not assumed freedoms but require  
23 continued solidarity and participation in the democratic  
24 process, that with unwavering resolve and a collective aim,  
25 those devoted to their country can create change;

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Senate, recognizing  
27 the transformative significance of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,  
28 commit to celebrating its enduring legacy by urging all citizens  
29 of our state to stand firm in the fight against racism in all  
30 its forms and to work diligently towards crafting a society  
31 where every person is afforded equality, dignity, and the right  
32 to fair treatment under the law, thus advancing our collective  
33 journey toward a more just and inclusive union.

34 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,  
35 do hereby certify that this is a true and  
36 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8671,  
37 adopted by the Senate

1 February 19, 2024

2 SARAH BANNISTER

3 Secretary of the Senate