

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 12

In Memory
of
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

WHEREAS, The Senate of the State of Texas takes great pride in celebrating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was born January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, One of the most influential men of the 20th century, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., contributed in countless ways to the enrichment of our country, and it is appropriate that our state and nation continue to pay tribute to his life and work; and

WHEREAS, Today, Americans are struggling with the memory of the tragic events of September 11, 2001, and facing uncertain economic times, an ongoing battle against terrorism, and the possibility of impending war; it is a time to remember Dr. King's struggle to change America and the tenacity with which he held on to his goals; and

WHEREAS, A famed orator and clergyman and a 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner, Dr. King inspired millions to join his commitment to nonviolence and his struggle for equal rights; and

WHEREAS, Outspoken yet eloquent, Dr. King was an avid critic of racial injustice, and he inspired a generation to strive for improved civil rights, equal educational opportunity, and economic well-being for all; and

WHEREAS, From the streets of Montgomery to the Birmingham jail to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, Dr. King directed the attention of the world to the battle for human freedom and dignity; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King's historic "I have a dream" speech, which he delivered in 1963, is considered an oratorical masterpiece and exemplifies his charismatic leadership and eloquence; he was determined to adhere to a peaceful approach in seeking justice, and he never gave up his ideals or goals when faced with adversity; and

WHEREAS, After narrowly surviving a stabbing, Dr. King delivered the famous speech in which he stated "I may not get there with you" but "we will get to the promised land"; and

WHEREAS, A man of uncommon vision and determination, Dr. King dedicated his life to the betterment of his country; remembrance of him on his birthday, January 15, and on this January 20, the national holiday established in his honor, gives

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us all a special opportunity to celebrate the legacy of strength and courage he left behind; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby join citizens across the nation in paying tribute to the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared in honor and in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on January 16, 2003, by a rising vote.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate