

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, The country's largest and oldest civil rights
2 organization, the National Association for the Advancement of
3 Colored People, is marking the 100th anniversary of its founding on
4 February 12, 2009; and

5 WHEREAS, In the summer of 1908, the nation was shocked by
6 accounts of mob violence that raged for two days against African
7 Americans in Springfield, Illinois, the birthplace of President
8 Abraham Lincoln; a multiracial group of activists came together in
9 response to this outrage and formed the NAACP in New York on
10 February 12, 1909, which would have been Lincoln's 100th birthday;
11 the next year, founding officer W. E. B. Du Bois, a prominent
12 intellectual, launched the association's widely influential
13 magazine, *The Crisis*; and

14 WHEREAS, The NAACP established itself as a crucial legal
15 advocate with a series of early court battles, and in 1915 it
16 vigorously protested the inflammatory film *Birth of a Nation*, which
17 glorified the Ku Klux Klan and perpetuated demeaning stereotypes;
18 membership in the NAACP grew rapidly, from around 9,000 in 1917 to
19 90,000 three years later, with more than 300 branches across the
20 country; and

21 WHEREAS, After persistent pressure by the NAACP, President
22 Woodrow Wilson made a public statement against lynching in 1918;
23 the organization continued to battle this heinous practice
24 throughout the 1920s, leading a national debate that brought about

1 a sharp decline in such violence; in the 1930s, NAACP members
2 blocked the nomination of a segregationist judge to the U.S.
3 Supreme Court, and association lawyers Charles Houston and Thurgood
4 Marshall won the legal battle to admit an African American student
5 to the University of Maryland; and

6 WHEREAS, Future U.S. Supreme Court Justice Marshall later
7 brought the NAACP one of its greatest legal victories with *Brown v.*
8 *the Board of Education*, the landmark case that outlawed segregation
9 in public schools; the organization joined with other groups in the
10 heroic movement ignited by NAACP member Rosa Parks, and its
11 lobbying bureau in Washington helped advance integration of the
12 armed forces and passage of the Civil Rights Acts of 1957, 1964, and
13 1968, as well as the Voting Rights Act of 1965; and

14 WHEREAS, Through the years, this groundbreaking organization
15 has continued to work tirelessly to end bigotry and discrimination;
16 today, more than half a million members advocate for civil rights in
17 their communities and monitor barriers to opportunity in the public
18 and private sectors; as the NAACP marks its milestone 100th
19 anniversary, president and chief executive officer Benjamin Todd
20 Jealous has affirmed its commitment to human rights and announced
21 heightened efforts in behalf of all Americans to end disparities in
22 educational attainment, income, and health; and

23 WHEREAS, The NAACP has played a transformational role in
24 American history, and through their courage and tenacity, its
25 members and distinguished leaders have demonstrated profound
26 allegiance to our nation's founding principles of liberty,
27 equality, and justice; now, therefore, be it

H.R. No. 420

1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
2 Legislature hereby congratulate the National Association for the
3 Advancement of Colored People on its centennial and commend the
4 organization for its remarkable record of achievement.

Thompson

Straus	Gattis	Menendez
Allen	Geren	Merritt
Alonzo	Giddings	Miklos
Alvarado	Gonzales	Miller of Comal
Anchia	Gonzalez Toureilles	Miller of Erath
Anderson	Guillen	Moody
Aycock	Gutierrez	Morrison
Berman	Hamilton	Naishtat
Bohac	Hancock	Oliveira
Bolton	Hardcastle	Olivo
Bonnen	Harless	Orr
Branch	Harper-Brown	Ortiz, Jr.
Brown of Kaufman	Hartnett	Otto
Brown of Brazos	Heflin	Parker
Burnam	Hernandez	Patrick
Button	Herrero	Paxton
Callegari	Hilderbran	Pena
Castro	Hochberg	Phillips
Chavez	Hodge	Pickett
Chisum	Homer	Pierson
Christian	Hopson	Pitts
Cohen	Howard of Fort Bend	Quintanilla
Coleman	Howard of Travis	Raymond
Cook	Hughes	Riddle
Corte	Hunter	Rios Ybarra
Crabb	Isett	Ritter
Craddick	Jackson	Rodriguez
Creighton	Jones	Rose
Crownover	Keffer	Sheffield
Darby	Kent	Shelton
Davis of Harris	King of Parker	Smith of Tarrant
Davis of Dallas	King of Taylor	Smith of Harris
Deshotel	King of Zavala	Smithee
Driver	Kleinschmidt	Solomons
Dukes	Kolkhorst	Strama
Dunnam	Kuempel	Swinford
Dutton	Laubenberg	Taylor
Edwards	Legler	Thibaut
Eiland	Leibowitz	Thompson
Eissler	Lewis	Truitt
Elkins	Lucio III	Turner of Tarrant
England	Madden	Turner of Harris
Farabee	Maldonado	Vaught
Farias	Mallory Caraway	Veasey
Farrar	Marquez	Villarreal
Fletcher	Martinez	Vo
Flores	Martinez Fischer	Walle
Flynn	McCall	Weber
Frost	McClendon	Woolley
Gallego	McReynolds	Zerwas

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.R. No. 420 was adopted by the House on
February 12, 2009, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House