

By: Representative Fleming

To: Rules

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MISSISSIPPI
2 CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE FUNDAMENTAL INJUSTICE,
3 CRUELTY, BRUTALITY AND INHUMANITY OF SLAVERY IN THE UNITED STATES
4 AND TO ESTABLISH A COMMISSION TO EXAMINE THE INSTITUTION OF
5 SLAVERY, DE JURE AND DE FACTO RACIAL AND ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION
6 AGAINST AFRICAN AMERICANS AND THE CONTINUING IMPACT OF THESE
7 FORCES ON AFRICAN AMERICANS TODAY; TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
8 CONGRESS ON APPROPRIATE REMEDIES.

9 WHEREAS, the United States government has never acknowledged
10 or taken responsibility for its role in the enslavement of
11 Africans and the perpetuation of subordination and inferiority
12 among the African descendants; and

13 WHEREAS, the subsequent impact of enslavement, segregation
14 and discrimination continues to have a significant effect upon the
15 lives of African Americans limiting opportunities and life chances
16 because when there is trauma that is not discussed, it persists
17 through generations; and

18 WHEREAS, millions of African Americans remain economically
19 and socially disabled by the long, cruel vestiges of American
20 slavery and the century of government-embraced racial
21 discrimination that followed, African social and economic
22 institutions were destroyed; languages, religions and customs were
23 extinguished; and as a result of the ravages of slavery and the
24 racial strictures that followed, African Americans were consigned
25 to this nation's economic bottom; and

26 WHEREAS, African Americans continue to strive to improve
27 their educational attainment, economic conditions and family
28 social organization and have been held back by official
29 indifference thereto and have been deliberately and systemically
30 excluded from institutions of power; and

31 WHEREAS, American history regards African Americans as slaves
32 and the other side of the dialogue must be understood, which is
33 that the so-called slave was an enslaved African, and this
34 identity is bereft of humanity and lacking in dignity; and

35 WHEREAS, all Americans and the United States government have
36 experienced tremendous gain and continue to benefit from the
37 unjust expropriation of uncompensated labor by enslaved Africans,
38 the subordination and segregation of the descendants of the
39 enslaved, as well as from discrimination against African
40 Americans; and

41 WHEREAS, African Americans have consistently sought to obtain
42 reparations in the courts of the United States and through appeals
43 to its government since the de jure end of slavery and have been
44 unjustly denied relief; and

45 WHEREAS, it is imperative that Congress establish a
46 commission to conduct a study on the lingering effects of slavery
47 and require the commission to recommend an appropriate remedy:

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
49 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING
50 THEREIN, That we request the Mississippi congressional delegation
51 to acknowledge the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality and
52 inhumanity of de jure slavery in the United States and require the
53 delegation to establish a commission to examine the institution of
54 slavery, de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination
55 against African Americans and the continuing impact of these
56 forces on African Americans today, and to make recommendations to
57 Congress on appropriate remedies.

58 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution shall
59 be furnished to each member of the Mississippi congressional
60 delegation and to the Capitol Press Corps.