

House Concurrent Resolution No. 46

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHWADRON.

1649H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

1 **WHEREAS**, America has a dark history of lynching African Americans; and

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3 **WHEREAS**, lynchings were carried out without repercussions and were used to terrorize
4 the black community; and

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6 **WHEREAS**, recognizing moral shortcomings in our past is as important as celebrating
7 past virtues to be able to fully understand our present; and

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9 **WHEREAS**, for those affected by past violence, acknowledging the event is essential
10 for the victims as well as for the perpetrators and bystanders to process it; and

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12 **WHEREAS**, many communities in America where lynchings occurred have erected
13 monuments recognizing the Civil War, the Confederacy, and white Southerners' violent retaking
14 of local power after Reconstruction, and very few monuments or memorials address the history
15 and legacy of lynching; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, most victims of lynching have never been publicly acknowledged; and

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19 **WHEREAS**, the Equal Justice Initiative's Historical Marker Project erects narrative
20 markers in public locations describing the devastating violence that once took place in those
21 locations and that is widely unknown today; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, these markers invite the community in which they are placed to use truth
24 to hear silenced voices and expose troubled histories; and

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26 **WHEREAS**, the Equal Justice Initiative has documented sixty lynchings that occurred
27 in Missouri; and

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29 **WHEREAS**, these lynchings were in the counties of Barry, Bates, Boone, Buchanan,
30 Butler, Callaway, Cape Girardeau, Clay, Clinton, Franklin, Greene, Howard, Jackson, Jasper,
31 Iron, Lafayette, Lawrence, Macon, Mississippi, New Madrid, Nodaway, Pemiscot, Pike, Platte,
32 Ralls, Ray, Randolph, Reynolds, Saline, Scott, St. Louis, and Wayne:

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34 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
35 Representatives of the One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
36 concurring therein, hereby urge the governing bodies of the counties named above to partner with
37 the Equal Justice Initiative to erect historical markers that memorialize lynchings; and

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39 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
40 Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the
41 governing body of each county named above and for the Equal Justice Initiative.

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