

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

Whereas, all government power originates from the people, is founded upon their will, and is instituted for the good of the whole;
and

Whereas, Constitutional Democracies are intended to promote the general welfare of all people; and

Whereas, no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; and

Whereas, the United States of America has a long history of denying Black individuals basic human rights; and

Whereas, the early American economy was erected on the backs of slaves; and

Whereas, even after slavery "ended", Black people were still denied basic human rights in this nation; and

Whereas, White people used coercion, violence, and government regulation to exclude Black people from the prosperity America has enjoyed in abundance; and

Whereas, among the rights refused to Black people after the abolition of slavery was the right to vote, including direct legal prohibitions and indirect prohibitions, via poll taxes and lynch mobs; and

Whereas, Black Americans have never enjoyed the fruits of "blind justice" by this nation; and

Whereas, Black Americans have been denied basic opportunities by this country; and

Whereas, Black Americans have been deprived access to education, voting rights, jobs, and the privilege of equal citizenship; and

Whereas, affording these rights to Black Americans would have raised the Black community to an equal level of opportunity; and

Whereas, Black Americans have suffered nothing less than an institutional robbery by the governing class of this nation; and

Whereas, White supremacy is a force so fundamental to American life that it is impossible to contemplate what this nation is without it; and

Whereas, the income gap between black and white households is roughly the same today as it was in 1970; and

Whereas, reparations would help ease the pain resulting in the long history of racial injustice Black people have faced; and

Whereas, perhaps more significant than the monetary gains reparations would generate, such payments would represent America's maturation concerning the racial history of this nation; and

Whereas, U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill, has the privilege of representing the people of Missouri in the United States Senate; and

Whereas, U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill often claims she supports the Black community and typically receives a large percentage of the Black vote; and

Whereas, as a proud daughter of Missouri, U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill has a duty to promote the general welfare of Missouri citizens; and

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-ninth General Assembly, First Extraordinary Session of the Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby urge U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill to put forward and support Federal legislation instituting reparations to the Black community; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for U.S. Senator Claire McCaskill.