**South Carolina General Assembly**

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**S. 509**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Senate Resolution

Sponsors: Senator Jackson

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Introduced in the Senate on March 3, 2009

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Summary: NAACP

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[3/3/2009](file:///p:\pprever\2009-10\509_20090303.docx)

**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO CONGRATULATE THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE (NAACP) ON ITS ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), initially called the National Negro Committee, was founded on February 12, 1909, by a multiracial group of activists in New York City for the purpose of renewing the struggle for civil and political liberty; and

Whereas, founding members were Ida Wells‑Barnett, W.E.B. DuBois, Henry Moscowitz, Mary White Ovington, Oswald Garrison Villiard, and William English Walling; and

Whereas, in 1910, in the face of intense adversity, the NAACP began its legacy of fighting legal battles addressing social injustice with the Pink Franklin case, which involved a black farmhand who unknowingly killed a policeman in self‑defense when the officer broke into his home at three o’clock in the morning to arrest him on a civil charge. After losing at the Supreme Court, the following year the renowned NAACP official Joel Spingarn and his brother Arthur started a concerted effort to fight such cases; and

Whereas, since that time, the achievements of the NAACP over the years have been numerous. Several historical highlights and key accomplishments illustrate the extent of its influence on this nation; and

Whereas, in the 1917 case Buchanan vs. Warley, the Supreme Court conceded that states cannot restrict and officially segregate African Americans into residential districts. In addition, the NAACP fought and won the battle to enable African Americans to be commissioned as officers in World War I. Six hundred officers were commissioned; and

Whereas, the first of successful protests by the NAACP against Supreme Court justice nominees was launched in 1930 against John Parker, who officially favored laws that discriminated against African Americans; and

Whereas, NAACP lawyers Charles Houston and Thurgood Marshall won the legal battle to admit a black student to the University of Maryland in 1935; and

Whereas, in 1948, the NAACP pressured President Harry Truman to sign an executive order banning discrimination by the federal government; and

Whereas, after years of fighting segregation in public schools, under the leadership of Special Counsel Thurgood Marshall, the NAACP in 1954 claimed one of its greatest legal victories in Brown vs. the Board of Education; and

Whereas, NAACP member Rosa Parks was arrested and fined for refusing to give up her seat on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. This 1955 event was noted as the catalyst for the largest grassroots civil‑rights movement spearheaded through the collective efforts of the NAACP, SCLC, and other black organizations; and

Whereas, Congress passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 to lend more power to the cause; and

Whereas, in 2000, the Great March was held to protest the flying of the Confederate battle flag over the South Carolina capitol dome. The event, attended by more than fifty thousand people, was the largest civil‑rights demonstration ever held in the South to that time; and

Whereas, the NAACP continues its great labors to this day, as it begins another century in fulfillment of its mission. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, congratulate the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) on its one hundredth anniversary.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the NAACP.

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