

House Resolution 1551

By: Representatives Turner of the 21st, Williams of the 168th, Caldwell of the 20th, Stovall of the 74th, Clark of the 147th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the National Statuary Hall Collection Replacement Committee; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1864, the United States Congress established the National Statuary Hall
4 Collection in the United States Capitol and authorized each state to contribute to the
5 collection two statues that represent important historic figures of each state; and

6 WHEREAS, Georgia currently has on display in the National Statuary Hall Collection
7 statues of Dr. Crawford W. Long and Alexander Hamilton Stephens; and

8 WHEREAS, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 2132, a state may request that the Joint Committee on
9 the Library of Congress approve the replacement of a statue the state has provided for display
10 in the National Statuary Hall Collection; and

11 WHEREAS, the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a distinguished Georgian who
12 passionately opposed hatred and discrimination, led in the Civil Rights Movement that
13 changed the course of history by bringing about the passage of civil rights legislation, and
14 received a Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to create a peaceful and just society; and

15 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that this esteemed historic Georgian be
16 appropriately recognized in the United States Capitol.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
18 GEORGIA that the members of this body join in honoring the life and memory of Dr. Martin
19 Luther King, Jr., and approve the replacement of the state's statue of Alexander Hamilton
20 Stephens with a statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in the National Statuary Hall
21 Collection in the United States Capitol.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

23 (1) **Creation of committee.** There is created the National Statuary Hall Collection
24 Replacement Committee to facilitate the replacement of the Alexander Hamilton Stephens
25 statue in the National Statuary Hall Collection with a statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

26 (2) **Members and officers.**

27 (A) The committee shall be composed of eight members.

28 (B) The Governor shall appoint the members of the committee and shall designate one
29 of such members as chairperson.

30 (3) **Duties.** The committee shall:

31 (A) Determine a suitable location in the state for placement of the Alexander Hamilton
32 Stephens statue. Once a suitable location is decided upon, the committee shall
33 immediately transmit to the Governor minutes of the committee meeting indicating such
34 location;

35 (B) Select a sculptor to create a statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;

36 (C) Review and approve the plans for the new statue;

37 (D) Estimate the costs associated with the replacement of the statue, including the costs
38 for:

39 (i) The sculptor for creating the statue;

40 (ii) The design and fabrication of the pedestal;

41 (iii) The transportation of the statue and pedestal to the United States Capitol;

42 (iv) The removal and transportation of the replaced statue;

43 (v) The temporary placement of the new statue in the Rotunda of the United States
44 Capitol for the unveiling ceremony;

45 (vi) The unveiling ceremony; and

46 (vii) Any other expenses that the committee determines are necessary to incur; and

47 (E) Identify a method for obtaining, and obtain, private funding to pay for all costs
48 associated with the replacement of the statue.

49 (4) **Powers.** In carrying out its duties, the committee may enter into contracts,
50 memorandums of understanding, and collaborative arrangements; seek, receive, and
51 expend private funding for the costs for replacing the statue; and undertake all other lawful
52 acts that are necessary to accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

53 (5) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee
54 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
55 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
56 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

57 (6) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

58 (A) Except as provided in paragraphs (B) and (C) of this subsection, all costs of
59 implementation of the committee and its work shall come from private funds raised,
60 bequeathed, or granted to the committee.

61 (B) Legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in
62 Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Such allowances shall
63 be paid from funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives.

64 (C) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,
65 or state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the committee, but
66 they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties
67 as members of the committee in the same manner as they are reimbursed for expenses in
68 their capacities as state officials or employees. Such expenses shall be paid from funds
69 appropriated to or otherwise available to the members' respective agencies.

70 (D) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state employees
71 shall receive no compensation, allowances, or reimbursement for expenses.

72 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2020.

73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

74 (1) Upon the committee's selection of a location in the state for the statue of Alexander
75 Hamilton Stephens as provided in paragraph (A) of subsection (2) of Section 2 of this
76 resolution, the Governor shall submit a written request to the Architect of the Capitol and
77 the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress for approval of the replacement of the
78 statue of Alexander Hamilton Stephens with a statue of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Such
79 request shall include a description of the location in the state where the replaced statue will
80 be displayed after it is transferred to the state and a copy of this resolution authorizing the
81 replacement.

82 (2) If the request is approved by the Joint Committee on the Library of Congress, the state
83 and the Architect of the Capitol shall enter into an agreement to carry out the replacement,
84 as provided in 2 U.S.C. § 2132(b).