

**SENATE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_**

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION honoring the lives and innocence  
of the three Black victims of the 1871 Charlestown Lynching.

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**YODER, BREAU, MELTON,  
POL, FORD J.D.**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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Introduced

Second Regular Session 122nd General Assembly (2022)

## SENATE RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

1           A SENATE RESOLUTION honoring the lives and  
2           innocence of the three Black victims of the 1871 Charlestown  
3           Lynching.

4           *Whereas, In 1871, outside of Henryville, Indiana, the family*  
5           *of Cyrus Park was murdered, except for one daughter who was*  
6           *grievously injured;*

7           *Whereas, George Johnson was accused of murdering the*  
8           *Park family, and after being tortured, falsely confessed and*  
9           *implicated Squire Taylor and Charles Davis;*

10          *Whereas, In the subsequent trial, the jury did not find*  
11          *evidence to convict Taylor, Davis, and Johnson of the murders;*

12          *Whereas, In response to the trial, a large vigilante mob of*  
13          *white men consisting of citizens of Henryville, Charlestown,*  
14          *and Otisco broke into the Clark County Jail in Charlestown*  
15          *and kidnapped the three Black men, branding Taylor and*  
16          *hanging all three men;*

17          *Whereas, After the lynching, research has overwhelmingly*  
18          *proved the innocence of Taylor, Davis, and Johnson;*

2022

DR 3828/DI KP



1           *Whereas, Despite this, there is no plaque or*  
2           *commemoration recognizing the injustices Taylor, Davis, and*  
3           *Johnson faced; and*

4           *Whereas, The Indiana Senate should rectify the lack of*  
5           *recognition of Taylor, Davis, and Johnson: Therefore,*

6                           *Be it resolved by the Senate of the*  
7                           *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

8           SECTION 1. That the Indiana Senate honors the lives and  
9           innocence of the three Black victims of the 1871 Charlestown  
10          Lynching.

11          SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed  
12          to transmit copies of this Resolution to Charlestown Mayor  
13          Treva Hodges and Clark County resident and Historian Ann  
14          Martin.

