

Regular Session, 2001

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 74

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROOME

CIVIL RIGHTS: Provides relative to racism and education about racism

1                                   A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2           To provide relative to racism and education about racism.

3                   WHEREAS, America's foundational document, *The Declaration of*  
4           *Independence*, expresses the self-evident truth that all men are created equal,  
5           that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, and  
6           that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness; and

7                   WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Louisiana of 1974 declares  
8           that the only legitimate ends of government are to secure justice for all,  
9           preserve peace, protect the rights, and promote the happiness and general  
10          welfare of the people; and

11                  WHEREAS, empirical science has documented an indisputable  
12          commonality among all people groups, or races, and has demonstrated that  
13          normal variations in the human gene pool account for our differences, of  
14          which racial differences are a trivial portion; and

15                  WHEREAS, the writings of Charles Darwin, the father of evolution,  
16          promoted the justification of racism, and his books *On the Origin of Species*  
17          *by Means of Natural Selection: or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the*  
18          *Struggle for Life* and *The Descent of Man* postulate a hierarchy of superior and  
19          inferior races; and

1           WHEREAS, Adolf Hitler and others have exploited the racist views of  
2 Darwin and those he influenced, such as German zoologist Ernst Haeckel, to  
3 justify the annihilation of millions of purportedly racially inferior individuals.

4           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana  
5 does hereby deplore all instances and ideologies of racism, does hereby reject  
6 the core concepts of Darwinist ideology that certain races and classes of  
7 humans are inherently superior to others, and does hereby condemn the extent  
8 to which these philosophies have been used to justify and approve racist  
9 practices.

10           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature does also hereby  
11 urge and request the public education system of Louisiana, as appropriate in  
12 the curriculum, to address the commonalities of people groups and the  
13 weaknesses of Darwinian racism.

14           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution  
15 be transmitted to the commissioner of administration, who will make its  
16 contents known to the heads of each Louisiana state department and agency;  
17 to the Board of Regents, who will make its contents known to each college and  
18 university president or chancellor; and to the state superintendent of education,  
19 who will make its contents known to the superintendent of each city, parish,  
20 or other local public school system.

---

#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument.

---

Broome

HCR No. 74

Provides relative to racism and education about racism. Deplores racism, rejects Darwin's concepts of superior and inferior races and classes of humans, and condemns the use of these philosophies to justify racist practices. Also urges and requests the state's public education system, as appropriate in the curriculum, to address the commonalities of people and the weaknesses of Darwinian racism.