

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2017-4604, by Representatives Chopp, Kristiansen, Appleton, Barkis, Bergquist, Blake, Buys, Caldier, Chandler, Chapman, Clibborn, Cody, Condotta, DeBolt, Dent, Doglio, Dolan, Dye, Farrell, Fey, Fitzgibbon, Frame, Goodman, Graves, Gregerson, Griffey, Haler, Hansen, Hargrove, Harmsworth, Harris, Hayes, Holy, Hudgins, Irwin, Jenkin, Jenkins, Johnson, Kagi, Kilduff, Kirby, Klippert, Kloba, Koster, Kraft, Kretz, Lovick, Lytton, MacEwen, Macri, Manweller, McBride, McCabe, McCaslin, McDonald, Morris, Muri, Nealey, Orcutt, Ormsby, Ortiz-Self, Orwall, Pellicciotti, Peterson, Pettigrew, Pike, Pollet, Reeves, Riccelli, Robinson, Rodne, Ryu, Santos, Sawyer, Schmick, Sells, Senn, Shea, Short, Slatter, Smith, Springer, Stambaugh, Stanford, Steele, Stokesbary, Stonier, Sullivan, Tarleton, Taylor, Tharinger, Van Werven, Vick, Volz, J. Walsh, Wilcox, Wylie, and Young

1 WHEREAS, Today, January 16, 2017, the people of the state of  
2 Washington and the nation come together to celebrate and honor the  
3 life and legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. King was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta,  
5 Georgia, and was a precocious student, entering college at the age of  
6 15; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. King was married to Coretta Scott on June 18, 1953,  
8 in Marion, Alabama; and

9 WHEREAS, Despite Dr. King's assassination on April 4, 1968, in  
10 Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. King's legacy of nonviolence and teaching of  
11 compassion and equality lived on through his followers and his wife,  
12 Coretta Scott King; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. King vehemently defended the idea of equality in  
14 America and sought to protest through nonviolent means, even when the  
15 odds were against him, as evidenced in his march through Selma,  
16 Alabama, which came to be after two failed attempts ended in  
17 obstruction; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was jailed several times  
19 throughout his struggle to bring all people the opportunity to live  
20 free from racial, ethnic, and religious discrimination and violence;  
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. King endorsed the truth that America had the  
23 capacity to change by declaring, "I have a dream that one day this

1 nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We  
2 hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created  
3 equal'; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. King's belief in equality and opportunity for all  
5 was not confined to the termination of racial injustice, but also  
6 extended to the necessity of economic justice for all, so that no man  
7 or woman would live in the bondage of poverty; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. King propelled the truths of injustice and brought  
9 to light racial discrimination and segregation, making a public  
10 conversation about it that helped to bring an end to unjust laws; and

11 WHEREAS, The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act  
12 of 1965 became law thanks to the blood, sweat, and tears shed by Dr.  
13 King and his supporters from every neighborhood and community in the  
14 United States; and

15 WHEREAS, We remember Dr. King's unwavering commitment to the idea  
16 of opportunity for all in the face of opposition, cruelty,  
17 mistreatment, and tyranny by those in power; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. King received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964, the  
19 youngest man to ever be chosen for this honor; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. King's life, work, and legacy will be continually  
21 celebrated through a permanent federal holiday honoring his birth  
22 established by the Congress of the United States; and

23 WHEREAS, Long after his assassination, Dr. King's legacy has  
24 encouraged Americans to honor him still, posthumously bestowing upon  
25 him the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1977 and the Congressional  
26 Gold Medal in 2004; and

27 WHEREAS, We continue to look toward Dr. King's experiences and  
28 teachings as we look to achieve full racial, social, and economic  
29 justice for all Washingtonians;

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of  
31 Representatives, on behalf of the people of the state of Washington,  
32 recognize and honor the life and work of the Reverend Dr. Martin  
33 Luther King Jr. and his commitment to a free and just world; and

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives call on  
35 the people of the state of Washington to join us in reflecting on Dr.  
36 King's life and lasting contributions to racial and social tolerance,  
37 and seek to fulfill his dream of equality and opportunity for all  
38 people.

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2 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of  
3 Resolution 4604 adopted by the House of Representatives  
4 January 16, 2017  
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10 Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk