

[Original unamended text of resolution offered by Louisiana Rep. Sharon Broome in 2001.]

Regular Session, 2001

House Concurrent Resolution No. 74

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROOME

CIVIL RIGHTS: Provides relative to racism and education about racism

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To provide relative to racism and education about racism.

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, Adolf Hitler and others have exploited the racist views of Darwin and those he influenced, such as German

zoologist Ernst Haekel, to justify the annihilation of millions of purportedly racially inferior individuals.

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

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

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