



SR0700

LRB099 12913 GRL 36762 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The people of the State of Illinois were shocked  
3 to learn of the tragic incident at the Emanuel African  
4 Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina on  
5 June 17, 2015; and

6           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate were deeply  
7 saddened to learn of the 9 victims who were tragically slain  
8 during Bible study at Emanuel AME that day: South Carolina  
9 State Senator Clementa Pinckney, the senior pastor at the  
10 church, Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, an assistant pastor,  
11 Tywanza Sanders, Ethel Lance, Susie Jackson, Cynthia Hurd, Myra  
12 Thompson, Daniel Simmons Sr., and DePayne Middleton Doctor; and

13           WHEREAS, Events connected with this tragedy have raised  
14 questions about the so-called "Battle Flag of the Confederacy"  
15 as a suitable element in the design of official state symbols;  
16 regardless of the reasons why this flag was previously chosen  
17 to be portrayed, it is now obvious that this flag is offensive  
18 and should no longer be depicted on official state symbols; and

19           WHEREAS, The official flag of the State of Mississippi, by  
20 Mississippi statute, incorporates a depiction of the "Battle  
21 Flag of the Confederacy" into its design; and

1           WHEREAS, The members of this body suggest that the  
2 Mississippi Legislature should adopt an official flag that  
3 honors the heritage of all Mississippians, including the over  
4 37% of Mississippians that are African-American; therefore, be  
5 it

6           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we call upon the  
8 Mississippi Legislature to take statutory action to remove any  
9 depiction of the "Battle Flag of the Confederacy" from the  
10 design of the flag of the State of Mississippi; and be it  
11 further

12           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
13 delivered to Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant, Tate Reeves,  
14 President of the Mississippi Senate, and Philip Gunn, Speaker  
15 of the Mississippi House of Representatives.