

A RESOLUTION

MEMORIALIZING THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, AND ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF CITIZENS OF ALABAMA TO ASSEMBLE AND TO VOTE.

WHEREAS the constitutional rights of certain citizens of Alabama to vote and to peaceably assemble are being forcibly repressed by that state, in a violent manner intolerable to free men; and

WHEREAS such forcible repression is in violation of the oaths of office of the governor of that state, and the public officials acting under him, to support and defend the constitution of the United States; and

WHEREAS it is the duty of government to protect the rights of the citizen against abuse and oppression, no matter what its source; and

WHEREAS the public authorities of Alabama have been unwilling to assume that duty, and instead appear to be harassing and injuring those who assert their rights, in a manner befitting a totalitarian police state; and

WHEREAS the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 makes it clear that the voting rights of our people and their freedom to assemble peaceably shall not be abridged; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the state of Minnesota that the public authorities of Alabama be urged to recognize the civil rights of all their citizens, that they subordinate their fears and intolerance to the truth of Christian ethics and precepts and that they take the steps necessary to protect their citizens and preserve their rights before it becomes immediately necessary to interpose further Federal force, and lacking immediate state action, that the President be urged to instruct the Attorney General to take immediate steps to implement the powers of the Federal government to protect the rights of American citizens, through the use of United States marshalls and such other law enforcement agents as are legally and properly required to carry out the law and to secure the rights of Americans who find themselves deprived of their basic freedom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the secretary of state be instructed to send copies of this resolution to the Honorable Lyndon B. Johnson,

