

Senate Resolution 359

By: Senators James of the 35th, Seay of the 34th, Brown of the 26th, Davenport of the 44th, Henson of the 41st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending Mrs. Coretta Scott King in honor of Women's History Month
2 and urging the Capitol Arts Standards Commission to authorize the placement of a portrait
3 of Mrs. Coretta Scott King on the second floor of the state capitol building alongside the
4 portrait of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, Coretta Scott was born on April 27, 1927, in Heiberger, Perry County,
6 Alabama, near Marion. She was the second of three children born to Obediah Scott, an
7 enterprising entrepreneur, and Bernice McMurray Scott; and in 1945, she enrolled at Antioch
8 College in Yellow Springs, Ohio, pursuing majors in music and education; and

9 WHEREAS, on June 18, 1953, Coretta Scott married Martin Luther King, Jr., with the
10 Reverend King, Sr., officiating at the wedding ceremony. Over the next ten years, the couple
11 welcomed four children into their family: Yolanda Denise, November 17, 1955, Martin
12 Luther III, October 23, 1957, Dexter Scott, January 30, 1961, and Bernice Albertine, March
13 28, 1963; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1956, when her first child was not even a year old, Mrs. King stood by her
15 husband's side as the Montgomery bus boycott began, and never did her support and
16 conviction waver, not when her house was bombed and not when her husband was jailed,
17 assaulted, and murdered for his commitment to human rights. She shared her husband's
18 steadfast commitment to seek peace and justice through nonviolent action and played a
19 leading role in advocating social change across the nation and throughout the world during
20 his lifetime and thereafter; and she continued to be a prominent voice in maintaining the
21 enduring legacy of her husband's dreams to the moment of her death; and

22 WHEREAS, while Dr. King is an undisputed hero of the movement, excelling in the
23 sincerity of his conviction, and his unwillingness to compromise in matters of nonviolence,
24 Mrs. King is a hero in her own right. Sadly, even though she has received many honors,

25 most "mainstream" Americans do not know of her accomplishments, her convictions, and
26 her tireless work on behalf of a free and equal society; and

27 WHEREAS, it is only right and proper that this great Georgia woman be honored during
28 Women's History Month.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
30 commend and recognize Mrs. Coretta Scott King in honor of Women's History Month and
31 urge the Capitol Arts Standards Commission to authorize the placement of a portrait of Mrs.
32 King on the second floor of the state capitol building alongside the portrait of Dr. Martin
33 Luther King, Jr.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
35 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Capitol Arts Standards Commission.