

## Senate Resolution 829

By: Senators Anderson of the 43rd, Butler of the 55th, Seay of the 34th, Williams of the 39th, Davenport of the 44th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative  
2 Women upon the grand occasion of its 35th anniversary; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 1985, the Honorable Diana Bajoie (LA-Ret.), the Honorable Lois DeBerry  
4 (TN-Decd.), the Honorable Carolyn Kilpatrick (MI-Ret.), the Honorable Jerry Eileen  
5 Muhugh Perry (MD-Decd.), the Honorable Teola Hunter (MI-Ret.), the Honorable Gwen  
6 Moore (CA-Ret.), the Honorable Juanita Watkins (MI-Ret.), the Honorable Diane Watson  
7 (CA-Ret.), the Honorable Annette Polly Williams (WI-Decd.), the Honorable Carrie Saxon  
8 Perry (CT-Ret.), and the Honorable Freddy Williams (OK-Ret.) gathered to create the  
9 National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL Women); and

10 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), nonpartisan organization composed  
11 primarily of current and former Black women legislators and many appointed officials; and

12 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women's mission is to increase and promote the presence of Black  
13 women in government, nonprofit, and corporate leadership through training and  
14 development, protecting the public interests of women and families, and supporting policy  
15 initiatives that contribute to the enhancement and sustainability of the Black community; and

16 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women's objectives are to create programs and platforms that advance  
17 Black women in the fields of public policy, public service, and civic engagement; to serve  
18 as a network and support system for Black women in public policy and organizational  
19 leadership; to serve as a venue for thoughtful dialogue on issues of public interest between  
20 elected officials and stakeholders; and to train and educate a class of cultivated and  
21 experienced Black women to assume both governmental and corporate leadership roles; and

22 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women has members in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California,  
23 Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,  
24 Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri,

25 Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio,  
26 Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah,  
27 Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin; and

28 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women has nine focus areas: education, energy, financial policies,  
29 health, social and economic justice, technology, telecommunications, women's issues, and  
30 voter education; and

31 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women currently has four annual programs: the Annual Legislative  
32 Breakfast; the Annual Legislative Conference; Girls, Gigabytes, & Gadgets; and the  
33 Leadership Training & Educational Development Institute; and

34 WHEREAS, the NOBEL Women Annual Legislative Breakfast is held in December of each  
35 year in conjunction with the National Black Caucus of State Legislators' Annual Legislative  
36 Conference. The NOBEL Women Annual Legislative Breakfast assembles policymakers,  
37 industry leaders, and stakeholders for thought-provoking conversation around real issues that  
38 directly affect Black women and their families; and

39 WHEREAS, the NOBEL Women Annual Legislative Conference (ALC) is the organization's  
40 annual meeting where more than 200 Black women legislators join industry leaders and  
41 stakeholders from around the country in dialogue on legislative and policy issues impacting  
42 the Black community. ALC provides a Black women perspective on public policy with  
43 thought-provoking and educational policy forums, community education workshops, and  
44 policy briefs; and

45 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women's national STEM initiative, Girls, Gigabytes, and Gadgets  
46 (3G), is an innovative, day-long series of workshops held in member districts throughout the  
47 country. 3G is designed to expose young women and girls of color to careers within the  
48 science, technology, engineering, arts/design, and mathematics disciplines; and

49 WHEREAS, the NOBEL Women Leadership Training and Educational Development  
50 Institute seeks to provide an educational and training forum exclusively for Black women in  
51 the areas of government and organizational leadership. The Leadership Institute assembles  
52 a class of 25–50 Black women annually in hopes of cultivating a new generation of Black  
53 women leaders; and

54 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women will continue to be the premier organization of Black elected  
55 legislative women that preserves the legacy of leadership and shapes the future of our  
56 country with exceptional knowledge, character, and courage; and

57 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women will continue to communicate the needs of Black women and  
58 girls to the media, legislatures, and governments to effect change; and

59 WHEREAS, NOBEL Women will continue to support opportunities that promote career,  
60 education, and employment advancements for Black women; and

61 WHEREAS, the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women will work to  
62 ensure the enforcement of responsible programs and policies that meet the legal, social,  
63 political, economic, educational, and health needs of children, women, and families.

64 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
65 recognize and commend the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women  
66 upon the grand occasion of its 35th anniversary and extend the most sincere best wishes for  
67 future success.

68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
69 to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the National  
70 Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women.