

House Resolution 1896

By: Representatives McClain of the 109th, Prince of the 132nd, Okoye of the 102nd, Mitchell of the 88th, and Beckles of the 96th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Honoring the life and memory of Marcus Mosiah Garvey; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the United Nations International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of the
3 Transatlantic Slave Trade, observed annually on March 25, calls upon the global community
4 to remember the millions of African men, women, and children who endured the horrors of
5 the Middle Passage and whose forced labor helped build the economic foundations of the
6 modern world; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, founded in 1816, emerged as a
8 spiritual and institutional response to the injustice of slavery and racial exclusion, nurturing
9 generations of ministers, educators, and civic leaders committed to freedom, dignity, and the
10 uplift of people of African descent; and
- 11 WHEREAS, institutions established by the AME Church—including Morris Brown College,
12 founded in 1881—embodied the principle that the descendants of enslaved Africans must
13 build and sustain their own institutions of learning, faith, and community leadership in
14 pursuit of intellectual liberation and economic self-determination; and

15 WHEREAS, these ideals of racial pride, self-reliance, and global unity were powerfully
16 amplified by Marcus Mosiah Garvey, founder of the Universal Negro Improvement
17 Association and African Communities League, who mobilized millions throughout the
18 African Diaspora around the vision of Pan-African solidarity and the restoration of African
19 dignity; and

20 WHEREAS, Garvey's message resonated deeply within Black churches and educational
21 institutions across the United States, including in Atlanta, where he addressed the community
22 on March 25, 1917, at the historic Big Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, one of
23 the most influential spiritual and intellectual centers of the Black South; and

24 WHEREAS, the convergence of these histories—the remembrance of the Transatlantic Slave
25 Trade recognized by the United Nations, the liberating witness of the African Methodist
26 Episcopal Church, and the global vision articulated by Marcus Mosiah Garvey—reflects a
27 shared moral commitment to remembrance, justice, and the restoration of dignity to the
28 descendants of enslaved Africans.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
30 the members of this body honor the life and memory of Marcus Mosiah Garvey, a visionary
31 leader, global organizer, and champion of Black dignity whose philosophy of Pan-African
32 unity transformed the consciousness of people of African descent throughout the world.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
34 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
35 public and the press.