

By Senator Hill

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Senate Resolution

A resolution celebrating the life and honoring
the achievements of Coretta Scott King.

WHEREAS, our country lost a magnificent leader in the
quest for achieving civil rights and human rights with the
passing of Coretta Scott King, on January 31, 2006, and

WHEREAS, Coretta Scott graduated from Antioch College
in 1951 with majors in Music and Education and later studied
at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, and

WHEREAS, Coretta Scott married the Rev. Martin Luther
King, Jr., in 1953, raised four children with him, and stood
at his side in the American Civil Rights Struggle,
courageously withstanding the firebombing of their home, the
assault and jailing of her husband, and a daily life fraught
with personal sacrifice leading up to his tragic assassination
in 1968, and

WHEREAS, since those dreadful days, Mrs. King has
persevered in the work she shared with Dr. King, providing
leadership and inspiration to new generations engaged in the
struggle for human dignity, social justice, and world peace,
and

WHEREAS, in addition to her work with Dr. King, she
served in 1962 as a delegate to the Disarmament Conference in
Geneva on behalf of the Women's Strike for Peace, and in 1968
she began her work without him by standing in his place at the
Poor People's March to Washington, and

WHEREAS, the following year she founded and became the
first Chief Executive Officer of the Martin Luther King, Jr.,
Center for Nonviolent Social Change, and her untiring efforts
over the years were responsible for the development of the

1 center and the Freedom Hall Complex into world-renowned
2 facilities carrying forward Dr. King's philosophy of
3 nonviolence through seminars, workshops, and training
4 programs, and

5 WHEREAS, Mrs. King also led goodwill missions to a
6 number of Latin American and African nations, and addressed
7 two of history's most massive peace rallies, in Bonn, Germany,
8 and in New York City, and

9 WHEREAS, in 1983 she led the mobilization efforts for
10 the 20th Anniversary March on Washington, D.C., bringing
11 together more than 800 human rights organizations to form the
12 Coalition of Conscience, and

13 WHEREAS, Mrs. King co-chaired the Full Employment
14 Action Council and instituted the Black Leadership Forum, the
15 National Black Coalition for Voter Participation, and the
16 Black Leadership Roundtable, and

17 WHEREAS, Coretta Scott King was an accomplished writer
18 publishing two books - "The Words of Martin Luther King, Jr."
19 and "My Life with Martin Luther King, Jr." - and establishing
20 the annual Coretta Scott King Award to honor outstanding
21 African American authors, and

22 WHEREAS, through her entire public life, Coretta Scott
23 King has been a model to the nation of stunning courage and
24 exemplary grace and will be remembered in history as an
25 outstanding American and an outstanding woman, NOW, THEREFORE,

26
27 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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29 That the Senate pauses in its deliberations to honor
30 the remarkable life and work of Coretta Scott King and
31 expresses its admiration and gratitude for the gifts of

1 | patience, courage, dedication, and insight that she has given
2 | this nation.
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