

HR 9057

2006

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution of condolence to the victims of lynching in
3 this state and their descendants and commendation to the
4 United States Senate for passing Resolution 39, which
5 apologized for its failure to pass anti-lynching
6 legislation.

7
8 WHEREAS, the crime of lynching succeeded slavery as the
9 ultimate expression of racism in the United States following
10 Reconstruction, and

11 WHEREAS, lynching was a widely acknowledged practice in the
12 United States until the middle of the 20th century, occurring in
13 documented incidents in all but four states, and

14 WHEREAS, at least 4,742 people, predominately African
15 Americans, were reported as being lynched in the United States
16 between 1882 and 1968, and

17 WHEREAS, at least 280 people, predominately African
18 Americans, were reported as being lynched in Florida between
19 1882 and 1968, and

20 WHEREAS, the recent publication of "Without Sanctuary:
21 Lynching Photography in America" has helped to bring greater
22 awareness and proper recognition to the victims of lynching, and

23 WHEREAS, it is only by coming to terms with history that
24 the United States can effectively champion human rights abroad,
25 and

26 WHEREAS, in 2005, the United States Senate passed Senate
27 Resolution 39, which apologized to the victims of lynching for
28 the failure of the United States Senate to enact anti-lynching

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29 | legislation, expressed its sympathies and regrets to the
30 | descendants of lynching victims, and remembered the history of
31 | lynching to ensure that the tragedies surrounding those crimes
32 | will neither be forgotten nor repeated, and

33 | WHEREAS, the United States Senate stated that an apology
34 | offered in the spirit of true repentance will move the nation
35 | toward reconciliation and will become central to a new
36 | understanding on which improved racial relations can be forged,
37 | NOW, THEREFORE,

38 |

39 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
40 | Florida:

41 |

42 | That the Florida House of Representatives expresses its
43 | deepest sympathies and most solemn condolences to the victims of
44 | lynching in this state and their descendants while commending
45 | the Senate of the United States for passing Resolution 39, in
46 | which it apologized to all the victims of lynching in the United
47 | States for its failure to enact anti-lynching legislation that
48 | might have preserved the lives, liberties, and constitutional
49 | rights of the victims and prevented such tragedies from
50 | occurring in this and other states.