

House Resolution

No. 5

Introduced by Assembly Members Yamada and Mitchell

January 17, 2013

House Resolution No. 5—Relative to the Commemoration of Rosa Parks’ 100th birthday.

1 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks was born on February 4, 1913, in
2 Tuskegee, Alabama, the first child of James and Leona (Edwards)
3 McCauley; and
4 WHEREAS, Rosa Louise McCauley married Raymond Parks
5 on December 18, 1932; and
6 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks, tired after a long day’s work as a
7 seamstress, was arrested on December 1, 1955, in Montgomery,
8 Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat on a bus to a white
9 passenger; and
10 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks’ arrest for refusing to comply with
11 Montgomery’s segregation law was the impetus for the
12 Montgomery Bus Boycott, led by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.,
13 which lasted 381 days and involved more than 40,000 African
14 American Montgomery residents; and
15 WHEREAS, On November 13, 1956, the United States Supreme
16 Court ruled that Montgomery’s segregation law was
17 unconstitutional, and on December 20, 1956, Montgomery officials
18 were ordered to desegregate buses; and
19 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks is honored as the “Mother of the
20 Modern Day Civil Rights Movement,” because her quiet act of
21 defiance began a movement that ended legal segregation in our
22 country and made her an inspiration to freedom-loving people
23 throughout the world; and

1 WHEREAS, The courage and conviction of Rosa Parks laid the
2 foundation for equal rights for all Americans and for the Civil
3 Rights Act of 1964; and

4 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks was the first woman to join the
5 Montgomery chapter of the NAACP, and was an active volunteer
6 for the Montgomery Voters League; and

7 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks cofounded the Rosa and Raymond
8 Parks Institute for Self Development in 1987 with Elaine Eason
9 Steele to motivate and direct youth to achieve their highest potential
10 through the “Pathways to Freedom” program; and

11 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks was the recipient of many awards
12 including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation’s highest
13 civilian honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor
14 Congress can bestow upon a civilian, and the first International
15 Freedom Conductor Award from the National Underground
16 Railroad Freedom Center, among many other awards and honors;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks dedicated her life to the cause of human
19 rights and truly embodied the love of humanity and freedom; and

20 WHEREAS, Rosa Parks passed away on October 24, 2005, and
21 was the first woman to lie in state in the nation’s capitol; and

22 WHEREAS, The people of the State of California are grateful
23 for the bravery of Rosa Parks and her contribution to the civil
24 rights movement; now, therefore, be it

25 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California,* That the
26 Assembly of the State of California hereby honors the 100th
27 birthday of Rosa Parks and urges all Californians to remember this
28 great American woman; and be it further

29 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
30 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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CORRECTIONS:

Title—Page 1.

Text—Page 2.

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