

SEC. 2. The Speaker of the House and the Majority Leader of the Senate, or their respective designees, acting jointly after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House and the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, to reassemble at such place and time as they may designate if, in their opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

Agreed to June 26, 2008.

June 27, 2008
[H. Con. Res. 377]

ARMED FORCES INTEGRATION, 60TH
ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION CEREMONY—
CAPITOL ROTUNDA AUTHORIZATION

Whereas African American men and women have served with distinction, courage, and honor in the United States Armed Forces throughout the history of the nation, even when they were denied the basic constitutional freedoms promised to all citizens;

Whereas the practice of racial segregation and discrimination in the military prevented African Americans from receiving the full recognition to which they were entitled as a result of their service;

Whereas African Americans, in leading the effort to protest discriminatory treatment in the armed forces, paved the way for successful integration of women, Asians, Hispanics, and other ethnic minorities;

Whereas the dedicated and heroic service of African American men and women during World War II led to President Truman's historic executive order 60 years ago that marked the beginning of racial integration in the United States Armed Forces;

Whereas as a result of President Truman's action, the United States Armed Forces has become one of the nation's best examples of an institution committed to equality, opportunity, and advancement based on merit rather than race, religion, or ethnicity; and

Whereas the heroic contributions of each member of the United States Armed Forces should be honored and celebrated: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),

**SECTION 1. USE OF ROTUNDA FOR CEREMONY COMMEMORATING 60TH
ANNIVERSARY OF INTEGRATION OF THE ARMED FORCES.**

(a) USE OF ROTUNDA.—The rotunda of the Capitol is authorized to be used on July 23, 2008, for a ceremony commemorating the 60th anniversary of President Truman's Executive Order No. 9981, which states, "It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin."

(b) PREPARATIONS.—Physical preparations for the ceremony referred to in subsection (a) shall be carried out in accordance with such conditions as the Architect of the Capitol may prescribe.

Agreed to June 27, 2008.

THURGOOD MARSHALL—100TH BIRTHDAY
ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION

July 16, 2008
[H. Con. Res. 381]

- Whereas Thurgood Marshall was born in Baltimore, Maryland, on July 2, 1908, the grandson of a slave;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall developed an interest in the Constitution and the rule of law in his youth;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall graduated from Lincoln University in Pennsylvania with honors in 1930, but was denied acceptance at the all-white University of Maryland Law School because he was African-American;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall attended law school at Howard University, the country's most prominent black university, and graduated first in his class in 1933;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall served as the legal director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) from 1940 to 1961;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall argued 32 cases before the Supreme Court of the United States, beginning with the case of *Chambers v. Florida* in 1940, and won 29 of them, earning more victories in the Supreme Court than any other individual;
- Whereas, as Chief Counsel of the NAACP, Thurgood Marshall fought to abolish segregation in schools and challenged laws that discriminated against African-Americans;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall argued *Brown v. Board of Education* before the Supreme Court in 1954, which resulted in the famous decision declaring racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional, overturning the 1896 decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson*;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall was nominated to the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, and was confirmed by the United States Senate in spite of heavy opposition from many Southern Senators;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall served on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit from 1961 to 1965, during which time he wrote 112 opinions, none of which were overturned on appeal;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall was nominated as Solicitor General of the United States by President Lyndon Johnson, and served as the first African-American Solicitor General from 1965 to 1967;
- Whereas Thurgood Marshall was nominated as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court by President Johnson in 1967, and served as the first African-American member of the Supreme Court;