

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 116
Author: Jackson (D), Bonta (D), Bryan (D), Elhawary (D), Gipson (D),
McKinnor (D), Ransom (D), Sharp-Collins (D) and Wilson (D), et al.
Introduced: 1/6/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution honors the late civil rights pioneer Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and commemorates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) On Thursday, January 15, 2026, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. would have been 97 years of age.
- 2) On April 8, 1968, just four days after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, Congressman John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.) introduced the first bill to establish January 15, Dr. King's birthday, as a federal holiday. On April 10, 1970, California became the first state to pass legislation making Dr. King's birthday a school holiday and, subsequently, a statewide holiday.
- 3) Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement helped change public policy from segregation to integration, resulting in the repeal of the post-Reconstruction era state laws mandating racial segregation in the South, known as the "Jim Crow Laws," thereby leading to the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson on July 2, 1964, and has been effective for over 60 years, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and other antidiscrimination laws aimed at ending economic, legal, and social segregation in America.
- 4) The life of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was devoted to fighting segregation and injustice by nonviolent means and is an outstanding example of

courageous leadership in the face of unrelenting violence and harassment by individuals and governmental institutions.

This resolution honors the late Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and commemorates Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 8 (Weber Pierson, Resolution Chapter 9, Statutes of 2025)

ACR 7 (Bryan, Resolution Chapter 4, Statutes of 2025)

SCR 95 (Bradford, Resolution Chapter 24, Statutes of 2024)

ACR 116 (Wilson, Resolution Chapter 16, Statutes of 2024)

SCR 12 (Bradford, Resolution Chapter 12, Statutes of 2023)

ACR 1 (Wilson, Resolution Chapter 2, Statutes of 2023)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 2/9/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 2/9/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171

2/12/26 9:08:36

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