

SENATE BILL No. 967

November 4, 2009, Introduced by Senator CLARKE and referred to the Committee on Local, Urban and State Affairs.

A bill to designate August 7 of each year as Dr. Ralph Bunche Day in the state of Michigan.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. The legislature recognizes the outstanding
2 contributions to American and world history made by Dr. Ralph
3 Bunche, a man who was an accomplished scholar, a distinguished
4 diplomat, and a supporter of civil rights for people throughout the
5 world. He was instrumental in the formation of the United Nations.
6 In 1949, as the acting chief mediator in Palestine for the United
7 Nations, Dr. Ralph Bunche successfully brokered a series of
8 armistice agreements between Israel, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, and
9 Syria. For his work in negotiating these armistice agreements, Dr.
10 Ralph Bunche was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950. He was the
11 first African American to receive the Nobel Prize. In 1963, Dr.

1 Ralph Bunche received the Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian
2 award, from President John F. Kennedy. In recognition of this great
3 man, the legislature declares that August 7 of each year shall be
4 known as "Dr. Ralph Bunche Day".