

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.240

Reps. Yancey, Brenda Carter, Bolden, Neeley, Scott, Young, Brabec, Tyrone Carter, O'Neal, Whitsett and Anthony offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge President Biden to appoint a Black woman
2 to the Supreme Court of the United States.

3 Whereas, The Supreme Court of the United States is a
4 cornerstone of American democracy and is of paramount importance to
5 the people of this country. As the highest tribunal of the nation,
6 the Court functions as the guardian and interpreter of the U.S.
7 Constitution, and ensures the promise of equal justice under the
8 law for all Americans; and

9 Whereas, The justices of the Supreme Court act as neutral
10 arbiters of the law. They are entrusted with the critical task of
11 providing an impartial constitutional analysis that is free from

1 political interference; and

2 Whereas, In order to effectuate true impartiality, it is vital
3 that the Supreme Court reflect the American population that it
4 serves. Diversity is key to maintaining the overall neutrality of
5 the institution. Individuals on the Court are inevitably influenced
6 by their life experience, and it is essential that no one group of
7 Americans is disproportionately represented on the Court; and

8 Whereas, In the 233 years of the Supreme Court's existence,
9 the overwhelming majority of justices - 94 percent - have been
10 white men. For centuries, systematic racism and sexism have
11 deprived millions of Americans the opportunity to serve on the
12 Supreme Court. As a result, the majority of this country's
13 constitutional jurisprudence has been dominated by the
14 interpretations and analyses of only one group of Americans - a
15 group that is highly invested in maintaining a system that affords
16 them power and control over others; and

17 Whereas, While women remain underrepresented on the Court
18 throughout history, the absence of Black women serving on the
19 Supreme Court is particularly disturbing. Black women have made
20 extraordinary contributions to our country since its founding, and
21 remain the backbone in the fight for justice and equality. The
22 progress that has been achieved, both within and outside the legal
23 system, has been due to the incredible grassroots organizing
24 efforts led largely by Black women. In addition, Black women have
25 fought against decades of oppressive laws and policies to occupy
26 space in the legal profession, which has fostered an impressive
27 list of extremely qualified candidates for the Supreme Court; and

28 Whereas, During his presidential campaign, President Biden
29 pledged to appoint a Black woman to the Supreme Court. The

1 retirement of Justice Stephen Breyer gives President Biden the
2 opportunity to fulfill this promise and make diversity a true
3 centerpiece of his legacy; now, therefore, be it

4 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge
5 President Biden to appoint a Black woman to the Supreme Court of
6 the United States; and be it further

7 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
8 President of the United States.