

As Introduced

**133rd General Assembly
Regular Session
2019-2020**

S. C. R. No. 3

Senator Williams

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To declare the intent of the State of Ohio to secure a 1
Memorial monument from the National Memorial for Peace 2
and Justice Monument Placement Initiative to be 3
installed on the grounds of the Statehouse. 4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING):

WHEREAS, On April 26, 2018, the Equal Justice Initiative 5
opened to the public the National Memorial for Peace and Justice 6
in Montgomery, Alabama; and 7

WHEREAS, The National Memorial for Peace and Justice is the 8
first memorial in the United States acknowledging, and dedicated 9
to, the over 4,000 African-American victims of racial terror 10
lynchings in over twelve states between the end of 11
Reconstruction in 1877 and 1950; and 12

WHEREAS, In most cases, the circumstances of racial terror 13
lynchings were in response to minor social transgressions, 14
distorted fear of interracial sexual activity, accusations of 15
serious crime, and African-American demands for basic rights and 16
fair treatment; and 17

WHEREAS, This form of racial terrorism was mostly carried 18
out through bold acts in public spectacle lynchings that 19
implicated entire communities and was perpetrated to enforce Jim 20

Crow laws and achieve the subjugation and control of African Americans; and

WHEREAS, The most active lynching states were in the South, but these acts of violence were also found in some states in the North and the Midwest, including Ohio; and

WHEREAS, The Equal Justice Initiative in its National Memorial for Peace and Justice Monument Retrieval Interest Form has stated that the "legacy of racial terrorism, and racial terror lynchings, in America has profoundly impacted our nation's geography, politics, social environment, and economic conditions, with disparate impacts on the African-American community that are still evident today"; and

WHEREAS, The National Memorial for Peace and Justice is not a static monument in that its space contains identical monuments that correspond to the over eight hundred counties where the Equal Justice Initiative has documented the occurrence of racial terror lynchings; and

WHEREAS, The Equal Justice Initiative invites these counties and the states to claim a Memorial monument in the hope to have components of the monument all over the United States where racial terror lynchings have been documented, and has available a National Memorial for Peace and Justice Monument Retrieval Interest Form to request a monument; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of the State of Ohio to secure a Memorial monument from the National Memorial for Peace and Justice Monument Placement Initiative to be installed on the grounds of the Statehouse and dedicated to the victims of racial terror lynchings that occurred in Ohio and in the United States in general; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the 133rd General Assembly of the State of Ohio, accomplish this intent and

appropriate the necessary amount of funds to secure a Memorial	52
monument from the National Memorial for Peace and Justice	53
Monument Placement Initiative and install the monument on the	54
grounds of the Statehouse.	55