

# House Concurrent Resolution No. 14

## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE DOLL

1840H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

1           **WHEREAS**, since 2019, policymakers from more than fifty American municipalities  
2 and three states have formally highlighted racism as a public health crisis; and

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4           **WHEREAS**, systemic racism and structures of racial discrimination create generational  
5 poverty; perpetuate debilitating economic, educational, and health hardships; and  
6 disproportionately affect people of color, causing the single most profound economic and social  
7 challenge facing Missouri; and

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9           **WHEREAS**, this economic and social inequity has been exacerbated by the COVID-19  
10 pandemic; and

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12           **WHEREAS**, over twenty percent of Missouri's population is persons of color, including  
13 persons who are Black, Indigenous, Hispanic, Asian, or Pacific Islander and persons of more  
14 than one racial or ethnic background; and

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16           **WHEREAS**, Missouri is a diverse and changing state with shifting demographics; and

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18           **WHEREAS**, racism has deep, harmful impacts; unfairly disadvantages Black,  
19 Indigenous, and other persons of color (BIPOC); and has impeded solutions necessary to achieve  
20 racial equity; and

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22           **WHEREAS**, health care providers have long noted the existence of racial and ethnic  
23 disparities in our health care system, and these inequalities have led to a disproportionate  
24 negative impact on BIPOC communities during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

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26           **WHEREAS**, the disproportionate, detrimental health impacts of COVID-19 on BIPOC  
27 communities are indicated by the overrepresentation of BIPOC communities in hospitalization  
28 rates and death rates; and

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30           **WHEREAS**, an example of this overrepresentation appears in St. Louis County, where  
31 BIPOC individuals, as of January 12, 2021, made up approximately 41.5 percent of COVID-19  
32 deaths despite comprising only slightly over 30 percent of the county's population; and

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34           **WHEREAS**, the chronic stress of racism affects the mental and physical health of the  
35 members of BIPOC communities and, in particular, affects the mental and physical health of  
36 Black Americans on a daily basis to a greater degree than other groups:

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38           **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of  
39 Representatives of the One Hundred First General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate  
40 concurring therein, hereby:

41           (1) State our commitment to the principle that all Missouri residents shall have equal  
42 consideration and opportunity under the laws, policies, and practices of this state;

43           (2) Declare that systemic racism and structures of racial discrimination constitute a  
44 public health crisis that is magnified by the disproportionately high impact of COVID-19 on  
45 communities of color and that affects the entire state of Missouri;

46           (3) State our support of local, state, regional, and federal initiatives to understand,  
47 address, and dismantle systemic racism and its impact on the delivery of human and social  
48 services, economic development, and public safety; and

49           (4) Request that federal funding be distributed equitably based upon the percentages of  
50 members of the BIPOC communities to address issues that disproportionately impact Black,

51 Indigenous, and other persons of color in direct proportion to their disadvantages by individual  
52 racial category.

