

House Concurrent Resolution No. 68

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE NEWMAN.

4423H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

Relating to a condemnation of hate groups.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

1 **WHEREAS**, article I, section 2 of the Constitution of Missouri states "that all
2 constitutional government is intended to promote the general welfare of the people; that all
3 persons have a natural right to life, liberty, the pursuit of happiness and the enjoyment of the
4 gains of their own industry"; and

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6 **WHEREAS**, article I, section 2 of the Constitution of Missouri further states "that all
7 persons are created equal and are entitled to equal rights and opportunity under the law; that to
8 give security to these things is the principle office of government"; and

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10 **WHEREAS**, a hate group may be identified as any group that propagates hate and
11 encourages violence against specific sectors of the population identifiable by their race, ethnicity,
12 national origin, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, or ability; and

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14 **WHEREAS**, hate groups present a real existential threat to the equal rights and security
15 of the citizens of Missouri guaranteed by their Constitution; and

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17 **WHEREAS**, hate groups have increased in both number and size in Missouri and the
18 nation in recent years; and

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20 **WHEREAS**, violent acts such as hate-motivated mass shootings and acts of domestic
21 terrorism committed by members of hate groups are on the rise throughout the nation; and

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23 **WHEREAS**, violent rhetoric and public discourse has become common at even the
24 highest levels of government in Jefferson City and Washington, D.C.; and

25 **WHEREAS**, the General Assembly, charged by article I, section 2 of the Constitution
26 of Missouri to protect the welfare of the people, has a responsibility to respond to such violent
27 acts in a firm and responsible manner:

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29 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the members of the House of
30 Representatives of the Ninety-ninth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
31 concurring therein, hereby condemn and disapprove of the actions and messages of hate groups;
32 and

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34 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the General Assembly hereby recognizes that hate
35 should have no place in the state of Missouri; and

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37 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his
38 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.

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