

House Resolution No. 1146

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives always welcome the opportunity to acknowledge Show-Me State organizations which are devoted to service in local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, Barrier Breakers was founded by Dr. James Lee, Jr., in 1999 in Springfield, Missouri, at the Historic Benton Avenue AME Church; and

Whereas, holding its first meeting on March 17, 2002, the inaugural Barrier Breakers event brought together Pastor Alvis Tan of the Springfield Chinese Church, Pastor Darrell Mead of Sparta Assembly of God Church, and Dr. James Lee of Historic Benton Avenue AME Church; and

Whereas, Barrier Breakers services were originally conducted every third Sunday at Historic Benton Avenue AME Church, with special Barrier Breakers services held at the same location on designated Saturdays; and

Whereas, Barrier Breakers works to bring various denominations and cultures into the unifying theme of “One Lord, One Love”; and

Whereas, to date Barrier Breakers has joined in spiritual communion people representing Chinese, European, Aboriginal, Korean, African, Jamaican, Pacific Rim, and Latino heritages; and

Whereas, Barrier Breakers was honored on January 19, 2004, by a Mayor Proclamation from the Honorable Tom Carlson in Springfield who declared that same Monday to be Barrier Breakers Day throughout the city; and

Whereas, in 2004 Barrier Breakers events were formally recognized as part of the Springfield area’s Martin Luther King, Jr., Day observances through a program entitled “Jesus and Martin”:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar history of Barrier Breakers in Springfield, throughout Missouri, across the United States, and around the world and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body’s most heartfelt best wishes for continued success as a unifying experience of faith in the spirit of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Barrier Breakers.

Offered by _____
Representative Bob Dixon
District No. 140

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1146, adopted March 16, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker