

## House Resolution No. 668

**Whereas**, it is with tremendous pleasure and utmost respect that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause in their diverse legislative endeavors in order to express a warm welcome to the Show-Me State to author, educator, and activist Angela Y. Davis; and

**Whereas**, Angela Davis will be an esteemed speaker and participant at The Saint Louis American Keynote Address: Social Justice, Punishment and Democracy event which will be held at Saint Louis University on Sunday, February 20, 2005, as part of the “Sharing Our Heritage” celebration of civil rights reforms in the United States and of the essence of African-American culture during Black History Month; and

**Whereas**, Angela Davis is a tenured professor at the University of California-Santa Cruz who came to national attention in 1969 after being removed from her teaching position in the philosophy department at the University of California-Los Angeles as a result of her social activism and membership in the Communist Party, USA; and

**Whereas**, Angela Davis has a long-standing commitment to prisoner rights which dates to her involvement in the campaign to free the Soledad Brothers, an endeavor which led to her placement in 1970 on the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Ten Most Wanted List, being the subject of an intense police search that drove her underground, arrest, and prosecution in one of the most famous trials of the twentieth century; and

**Whereas**, after sixteen months in prison, Angela Davis was given an acquittal in 1972 after a massive international “Free Angela Davis” campaign brought to light the falseness of the original charges against her; and

**Whereas**, Angela Davis is an advocate of prison abolition who has developed a powerful critique of racism in the criminal justice system, is a member of the advisory board for the Prison Activist Resource Center, is working on a comparative study of women’s imprisonment in the United States, the Netherlands, and Cuba, and is a lecturer who has spoken throughout the United States, Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, and the former Soviet Union; and

**Whereas**, The Saint Louis American Keynote Address: Social Justice, Punishment and Democracy is sponsored by the Black Student Alliance, Great Issues Committee, United for Peace and Justice, and The Saint Louis American Newspaper:

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the long history of societal activism garnered down through the years by Angela Davis and to convey to her this legislative body’s most heartfelt welcome to the state of Missouri as a participant in “Sharing Our Heritage” observances on the campus of Saint Louis University during Black History Month; 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 Angela Davis.

Offered by \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Yaphett El-Amin  
District No. 57

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do  
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House  
Resolution No. 668, adopted February 17, 2005.

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Rod Jetton, Speaker