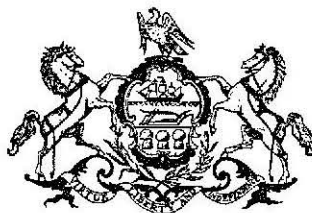


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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

JUDICIARY, SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ON
CRIME & CORRECTIONS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
FINANCE
DEMOCRATIC POLICY

CHAIRMAN, PA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS

APPOINTMENTS

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, NATIONAL BLACK
CAUCUS OF STATE LEGISLATORS
VICE CHAIRMAN OF LAW & JUSTICE
AFI OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF
STATE LEGISLATORS
LEGISLATIVE HOUSING CAUCUS
SUBSTANCE ABUSE CAUCUS

REMARKS OF ST. REP. HAROLD JAMES
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC HEARING
ON
HATE CRIME, TERRORISM AND ARSON
SPECIAL TASK FORCE
OF THE
HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1996

Remarks of St. Rep. Harold James
Before the House Judiciary Committee
Special Task Force on Hate Crime, Terrorism and Arson
November 21, 1996

CHAIRMAN SCHULER, SPECIAL TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS,
GOOD MORNING. I AM HAROLD JAMES, CHAIRMAN OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS AND STATE
REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE 186th LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT
ENCOMPASSING PARTS OF SOUTH AND SOUTH WEST PHILADELPHIA.

AS A NATIVE OF PHILADELPHIA AND HAVING GROWN UP IN THE
LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT I SERVE, EDUCATED HERE IN THE PUBLIC
SCHOOLS, SERVED AND RETIRED AFTER 22 YEARS AS A
PHILADELPHIA POLICE OFFICER, NEEDLESS TO SAY, I AM A PROUD
PHILADELPHIAN.

I WELCOME YOU TO THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE.

THIS MOTTO, "CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE", ALONG WITH THE
COMMONLY ADOPTED ADAGE OF "AND SISTERLY AFFECTION", WAS
ADOPTED I BELIEVE, BECAUSE OF THE STRONG SENSE OF
COMMUNITY WHICH EXISTS THROUGHOUT THIS FINE CITY.

**Remarks of St. Rep. Harold James
Before the House Judiciary Committee
Special Task Force on Hate Crime, Terrorism and Arson
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A SPIRIT WHICH STRETCHES ACROSS THIS VAST CITY TOUCHING THE LIVES OF EACH OF US WHETHER IT BE IN TIMES OF CRISIS BY UP-LIFTING THE SPIRIT OF A NEIGHBOR, OR CHEERING ANY OF OUR PROFESSIONAL ATHLETIC TEAMS.

AS A WHOLE, THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA HAS BEEN HOME TO MANY OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTORS TO SOCIETY RANGING FROM THE HOME OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, TO INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED ARTIST HENRY O. TANNER.

IN PARTICULAR FROM MY OWN DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY REIGNED MARIAN ANDERSON, A WORLD RENOWNED OPERA SINGER; AND PROFESSIONAL BASKETBALL PLAYER EARL "THE PEARL" MONROE, WHO AS A CHILD PLAYED AT THE CHRISTIAN STREET YMCA.

I PRESENT THIS BRIEF COMMENTARY SO IT IS CLEAR THAT WE ARE HERE TODAY NOT TO HONOR THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS NOR CHEER THE SUCCESS OF ANY PARTICULAR PERSON, OR GROUP, BUT RATHER WE ARE HERE ON A FACT-FINDING MISSION TO LEARN THROUGH TESTIMONY JUST HOW DOMINANT HATE ACTIVITY AND HATE CRIMES ARE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

Remarks of St. Rep. Harold James
Before the House Judiciary Committee
Special Task Force on Hate Crime, Terrorism and Arson
November 21, 1996

INSTEAD OF BEING HERE TO GIVE HONOR, WE ARE HERE TO LEARN THE HORROR OF WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE OF GOOD CONSCIOUS IGNORE THE PROBLEM. THROUGHOUT HISTORY WE CAN POINT TO EVENTS WHICH LEAD TO THE DESTRUCTION OF A SOCIETY BECAUSE THE MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION REFUSED TO ACCEPT EVIDENCE BEFORE THEM THAT THE EVIL FORCES OF HATE WERE ON THE RISE.

SPEARHEADED BY WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE THIRD RACIAL INCIDENT THIS YEAR ALONE IN MY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT, THIS PAST WEEK WE WITNESSED YET ANOTHER ACT OF RACIAL INTOLERANCE AND INSENSITIVITY. IN RESPONSE TO THIS UGLINESS, I CALLED A MEETING OF ELECTED OFFICIALS, AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES AND COMMUNITY LEADERS. AS A RESULT OF THIS MEETING, WE AGREED TO ESTABLISH A MULTI-RACIAL, MULTI-ENTITY BODY TO FORMULATE AND INSTITUTE MEANS BY WHICH WE CAN ADDRESS THE DEVELOPING OF MULTI-ETHNIC PROGRAMS WHICH WILL, WE HOPE, ALLEVIATE PROBLEMS OF RACIAL INTOLERANCE AND INSENSITIVITY.

Remarks of St. Rep. Harold James
Before the House Judiciary Committee
Special Task Force on Hate Crime, Terrorism and Arson
November 21, 1996

WE ARE HERE TODAY TO LEARN WHAT WE CAN DO TO BETTER EDUCATE AND ASSIST OUR COMMUNITIES IN BUILDING STRONG COALITIONS AGAINST THE UGLINESS OF HATE ACTIVITY AND RACISM.

WE ARE HERE TODAY BECAUSE THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP AGREED WITH MY RECOMMENDATION, AT LEAST IN PART, THAT WE GATHER INFORMATION IN ORDER TO MAKE AN INTELLIGENT, EDUCATED RECOMMENDATION TO THE COMMITTEE AS A WHOLE.

TODAY WE WILL HEAR TESTIMONY FROM VARIOUS EXPERTS, SOME OF WHICH WE MAY NOT NECESSARILY AGREE WITH, BUT IT IS THEIR FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHT TO AIR THEIR POSITION. THUS, I HOPE, MR. CHAIRMAN, AND TASK FORCE MEMBERS, THAT THE TESTIMONY OF THOSE WHO ESPOUSE UNKINDLY VIEWS, DO NOT OVERSHADOW THE COUNTLESS VICTIMS WHO ARE NOT REPRESENTED HERE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, THANK YOU FOR SELECTING PHILADELPHIA AS A CITE FOR THIS PUBLIC HEARING.

Deval Patrick resigns from U.S. Attorney General's office

THE PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE 11-19-96

By Michael Dabney
Tribune Correspondent

Assistant U.S. Attorney General Deval Patrick, who announced his resignation last week, told a national news magazine that the success of American democracy depends on people coming together across racial and ethnic lines and holding common civic values.

The outgoing head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division told *U.S. News & World Report* in its Nov. 25 issue that affirmative action is needed to combat race-based discrimination, that the Voting Rights Act must be protected and that race hatred and religious bigotry were the motives in many of the church burnings in the South in the last two years.

"Race is with us, and it is with



Deval Patrick — ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO
us in the context of the attacks on Black churches. There's absolutely no question about that. And that has to be faced," Patrick said in a *U.S. News* interview.

Patrick reportedly played a key
(Continued on Page 3-A)

Affirmative action is essential says Patrick

(Continued from Page 1-A)

role in the Clinton administration's support for affirmative action. He helped the administration modify its position on affirmative action, with President Clinton saying he intended to "mend, not end" affirmative action.

A Defense Department program to allocate contracts to minority businesses was ended but other programs survived. In addition, the number of loans to qualified minority borrowers has reached record levels. His division successfully won court decisions to open two state-supported military institutions in the South to women.

Patrick said after declaring discrimination wrong and unlawful, people have failed to see that work still needs to be done.

"Affirmative action faces a sort of opposition by slander, the notion that all affirmative action is some form of bean counting or quotas or that it's a compromise of quality," he said in the magazine. "That has absolutely nothing to do with the way affirmative action is supposed to be done and the way the courts have upheld it.

"All American choices are not based on merit, and eliminating consideration of race, ethnicity and

gender isn't going to leave us with choices that are. Merit has a central role and merit need not be compromised in the interest of integration," he said.

Patrick termed the court's language in striking down many Congressional districts where minorities are in the majority as "unusually extreme."

The U.S. Supreme Court has called some majority-minority districts "political apartheid."

"We're talking about districts where a bare majority of the voters were minorities and everyone else was white," he said. "I don't understand why that district is political apartheid and a district which is 90 or 95 percent white is not."

Patrick co-chaired a task force on church burnings that has led to 120 arrests in 80 fires since January 1995. But he said the administration "never said race explained all of the fires."

"The increase in the rate of attacks of Black churches — particularly in the South — was significant and had to be faced," he said. "As we have continued this investigation, we have seen many instances of racial hostility or religious bigotry driving these fires."

But he said the government did

not have iron-clad evidence of racial hostility which officials could present in court in all the church burning cases.

However, he said such racial bias must be faced if American democracy is to survive.

"We are a deeply diverse American society," Patrick told *U.S. News*. "American democracy is going to depend on people coming together across all those differences and being united by common civic values. The way that happens ... is by our overcoming the suspicion and occasionally even the hatred that we bring to the table by virtue of those differences."

He said it is the ability to see across racial and ethnic lines "that makes the difference in the ability to see and imagine each other as fellow citizens with a stake in each other's struggles."

"That issue will become even more significant as this country continues to become more diverse and more culturally complex," Patrick said.

Patrick, who has been commuting to Boston on weekends for the past two years to be with his wife and two daughters, said he is looking for a job in the Boston area.