



27th National Delegates Assembly
Blacks In Government, Incorporated
2006 Resolutions – New York, New York

RESOLUTION

Support for Ms. Bunnatine Hayes Greenhouse

WHEREAS, Blacks In Government (BIG) was organized in 1975 and incorporated as a non-profit organization under the District of Columbia jurisdiction in 1976 to address the collective needs of African Americans in public service and to organize around issues of mutual concern and use collective strengths in confronting workplace and community issues; and

WHEREAS, BIG is the Nation's oldest and largest public service employee advocacy organization dedicated to the eradication of all vestiges of racism and disparate treatment practices perpetrated upon people, and its goals are to promote equity in all aspects of American life, excellence in public service, and opportunity for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Bunnatine Hayes Greenhouse, a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES), was the top procurement official for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for many years; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Greenhouse was degraded and humiliated in front of staff officers; and

WHEREAS, For three years, she rated near or at the highest level possible in job reviews; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Greenhouse job review comments from those years read, "Effective, enthusiastic, energetic, tenacious, selfless...ensured the epitome of fairness in Corps contracting...has ensured professionalism in the acquisition workforce second to none...made the tough decisions that reflect the highest degree of entrepreneurial and critical thought"; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Greenhouse, who in her duties, followed the regulations to the letter of the law, was classified as a "Whistleblower". In an act of retaliation, which in itself is against the laws, the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers demoted her, cut her pay and stripped her of her authority.

BE IT RESOLVED, During the 2006 National Delegates Assembly, we agree to show our support for Ms. Greenhouse, as a public servant; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That the ill treatment of "one of our finest" sisters be condemned and the agency encouraged to take immediate corrective action; and

FURTHER BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, That within 90 days after this resolution is passed, the National President of Blacks In Government send a letter to the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. Department of the Army, and the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers requesting enforcement of the Whistleblower's Act on behalf of Ms. Bunnatine Hayes Greenhouse, so that she may continue the outstanding job of overseeing the correct spending of taxpayers dollars.

Submitted by:

Yolanda M. Brown-Harris, Secretary, Region V
Columbus Area Chapter

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27th National Delegates Assembly
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2006 Resolutions – New York, New York

Resolution

Governance of BIG Resolutions Adopted at the Delegates Assembly

WHEREAS, Blacks In Government (BIG) was organized in 1975 and incorporated as a non-profit organization under the District of Columbia jurisdiction in 1976 to address the collective needs of African Americans in public service and to organize around issues of mutual concern and use collective strengths in confronting workplace and community issues; and

WHEREAS, BIG is the Nation's oldest and largest public service employee advocacy organization dedicated to the eradication of all vestiges of racism and disparate treatment practices perpetrated upon people, and its goals are to promote equity in all aspects of America life, excellence in public service, and opportunity for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, on Monday August 1, 2005 at the Rosen Centre Hotel in Orlando, Florida, the 2005 Delegates at the Delegates Assembly adopted 10 Resolutions hereto titled,

- 1) Privatization of Social Security
- 2) Global War on Terrorism (Conflict in Iraq)
- 3) Abolishment of the Death Penalty
- 4) Support Human Rights in the Sudan
- 5) Racial Profiling
- 6) Appeal of the U.S.A. Patriot Act
- 7) Suspend Police Abuse in the Use of TASERS
- 8) Commemorative Coin Honoring the Little Rock Nine
- 9) Honoring Seaman Dorie Miller for the Congressional Medal of Honor
- 10) Taxation Without Representation

WHEREAS, these Resolutions were voted on in good faith by the delegates of this great organization, with the belief and understanding that the resolutions would be timely acted on by our elected leadership; and

WHEREAS, the National President who directs other elected officers and appointed committee chairs to carry out this assembly's directives as voted upon, was responsible to fully adhere to the "Be It Resolved" clause in each resolution in a timely and expeditious manner; and

WHEREAS, of May 2006, (10 months later) this region and others discovered that most if not all of the Resolutions had not been addressed as called for in the be it resolved clauses in the majority of the Resolutions; and

WHEREAS, this lack of timely action has clearly devalued the urgency, need and credibility of these Resolutions. This lack of timely action has further diminished the power and integrity of this body to direct its National leader to carry out the desires of the members; and

BE IT RESOLVED, henceforth that each Resolution passed by the National Delegates Assembly each year hereafter shall be carried out by the National President, and or the appropriate national elected officer/appointed official according to each noted "***Be It Resolved Clause***" not to exceed 120 days from the date of adoption.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, if a Resolution cannot be addressed according to the *Be It Resolved Clause* within the 120 day time period, the Board of Directors via the Board Chair will send a letter to the National President requesting an explanation of said reason why the Resolution was not acted on in the allowable time frame. The Board of Directors, via the chair, will then determine the best course of action making certain that the good faith desires of the delegates adhered too in a timely fashion.

Submitted by:
Earl L. Bryers, Regional Council President, Region IX
Greater San Diego Chapter
San Diego, California



**27th National Delegates Assembly
Blacks In Government, Incorporated
2006 Resolutions – New York, New York**

RESOLUTION

Support Reparations from Aetna Insurance for African Americans

WHEREAS, Blacks In Government (BIG) was organized in 1975, and incorporated as a non-profit organization under the District of Columbia jurisdiction in 1976, and now is the Nation's oldest and largest public service employee advocacy organization, dedicated to the eradication of all vestiges of racism and disparate treatment practices perpetrated upon people; and

WHEREAS, BIG believes that Blacks should unite in order to obtain and secure the rights and privileges of full citizenship participation, and to address the collective needs of African Americans in public service and to organize around issues of mutual concern and use collective strengths in confronting workplace and community issues; and

WHEREAS, research has determined that several insurers were involved in providing slave insurance policies to slave owners; and

WHEREAS, Aetna was one of the companies involved in underwriting policies in the 1850s; and

WHEREAS, an investor, unsure about purchasing costly human chattel, would gain security from predecessor companies to Aetna Inc., New York Life Insurance Company, and American International Group, which enabled slave owners to work enslaved Africans in ultra hazardous capacities; and

WHEREAS, insured enslaved Africans frequently died horrendous deaths including drownings, and fatal burnings in coal mines; and

WHEREAS, California's Slaveholder Insurance Policies Bill (SB 2199) made it possible to acquire slave insurance policies from Aetna and Aetna predecessor(s) and other insurers doing business in the state of California; and

WHEREAS, Aetna issued a public apology for their role in slavery but to date, has not created a restitution Trust Fund to benefit the descendants of enslaved Africans as they said they would; and

WHEREAS, research and efforts by Deadria Farmer-Paellman with Aetna and ongoing grassroots organizing of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA) and other reparations activists and supporters served as catalysts for a host of slavery era disclosure bills requiring corporations doing business with local and state municipalities to disclose any ties they or their predecessor(s) have to the institution of slavery; and

WHEREAS, Blacks in Government (BIG) adopted a resolution in 2004 supporting Congressman Conyers' H.R. 40 Bill to acknowledge the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery and to establish a commission to examine the present day impact of slavery and Jim Crow on living African-Americans and to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies; and

WHEREAS, approximately 3.4 Million African Americans, which constitute 17 % of the federal government's workforce, having the economic clout to influence Aetna's behavior to create a restitution Trust Fund to benefit the descendants of enslaved Africans; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

- (1) that the National Organization of Blacks in Government through its National Board of Directors and the National Executive Committee, all regions and chapters members currently enrolled under an Aetna Healthcare Policy should consider other insurance providers during the 2006-2007 Federal Government Open-Season since Aetna has failed to create a restitution Trust Fund to benefit the descendants of enslaved Africans as stated; and
- (2) that a written copy of this resolution be delivered to Aetna Insurance Headquarters, and that the National Organization of Blacks in Government through its National Board of Directors and the National Executive Committee, all regions and chapters petition Aetna Healthcare to follow through with the creation of a restitution Trust Fund to benefit the descendants of enslaved Africans as stated; and
- (3) that a Press Release be issued for widespread dissemination announcing the adoption of this Resolution and the recommendation that Aetna Healthcare establish a Trust Fund to assist African American Healthcare Institutions actively working to alleviate the health disparities plaguing African American families and communities; and
- (4) that a copy of this Resolution be delivered to the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA), P.O. Box 90604, Washington, D. C. 20090-0604, and Ms. Deadria Farmer-Paellman, J.D., M.A., Restitution Study Group, P.O. 622, Hoboken, NJ 07030, for negotiating with Aetna for a resolution to this issue.

Submitted by:

Pat Swailes, Life Member
NOAA Chapter
Silver Spring, Maryland



27th National Delegates Assembly
Blacks In Government, Incorporated
2006 Resolutions – New York, New York

RESOLUTION

The U.S. Led ‘War on Drugs’ & African-American Human Rights

WHEREAS, The National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG), was incorporated in 1976 as a non-profit organization to advocate and educate and, today, BIG seeks to represent 3.4 million public and private civil servants by continuing to address racial disparate treatment in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS, the United States government, utilizing both public and private industry launched a ‘War On Drugs’ (WOD) with its Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1986, having an extraordinarily disparate impact on racial minorities evidenced by the disproportionate number of Blacks incarcerated for drug charges and housing of one fourth of the world’s entire prison population according to a recent prison report; and

WHEREAS, according to the NAACP Prisoners’ Rights Sub-Committee, in 1954, there were 98,000 African-Americans incarcerated, and today more than 900,000 are incarcerated. Further stating since the enactment of enhanced drug sentencing guidelines, such as “three strikes, and you are out”, ‘crack versus powder cocaine’ disparate sentencing, and other racial bias enforcement procedures, these are ‘the new slavery laws’; and

WHEREAS, the BIG National 1st Vice President, Matthew Fogg, was an intricate part of the WOD in 1989 to 1992, providing supervisory leadership for the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Washington Metropolitan Area (joint law enforcement drug and gun interdiction) Task Force; and he personally observed racial bias enforcement procedures that targeted inner city urban areas’ Black offenders in Baltimore, DC, and Virginia; meeting internal resistance when he requested to target upscale white areas’ offenders; and

WHEREAS, statistics from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) reveal that the greatest number of documented crack users are white and where seventy-five percent of those reporting cocaine use in 1991; 15% were Black and 10% Hispanic; and

WHEREAS, the incarceration of women, and especially women of color convicted of low-level drug-related offenses, have negatively impacted families, created drug war orphans, and dramatically increased the burden on social services; and

WHEREAS, a May 2006 report by the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy stated that national drug enforcement operations and prosecutions have resulted in the “War on Drugs” being targeted almost exclusively at inner-city communities of color and overwhelmingly African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, all national reports and studies since 1986 to present have concluded that the “War On Drugs” can literally be interpreted as a virtual race war to incarcerate and disenfranchise-Americans; invalidated by its bias disproportionate and bias enforcement operations and prosecutions; thus treating similarly situated White Americans much differently; and

WHEREAS, Amnesty International, the world's largest Human Rights advocacy group's USA Section overwhelmingly passed a resolution titled, "The waging of a war on illegal drugs, known as the War on Drugs, and its effect on human rights and environmental integrity" at their April 2002 Annual General Meeting; and

BE IT RESOLVED,

- (1) That Blacks In Government does not support U.S. led War On Drugs campaign due to its bias and overwhelming disproportionate impact on African-Americans' economic, social and culture rights;
- (2) Will deliver a copy of this resolution to the President of the United States of America, the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, the United States Attorney General; and
- (3) Will deliver a copy of this resolution to the Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, the United States Senate and House Majority Chairs; President of the NAACP, Black Leadership Forum, National Urban League, and the National Drug Policy Institute.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that BIG will develop a "*Let My People Go*" campaign strategy to educate its membership and further support other organizations that have studied the "War on Drugs" and expressed a concern over racism and the profound disparate impact the "War on Drugs" has had on all African-Americans.

Submitted by:

Matthew F. Fogg
BIG National 1st Vice President
Ronald H. Brown Chapter, Region XI



27th National Delegates Assembly
Blacks In Government, Incorporated
2006 Resolutions – New York, New York

RESOLUTION

Support for an Executive Order to be Decreed by President Bush for the “Study of Reparations for African Americans”

WHEREAS, Blacks In Government (BIG) was organized in 1975, and incorporated as a non-profit organization under the District of Columbia jurisdiction in 1976, and now is the Nation’s oldest and largest public service employee advocacy organization, dedicated to the eradication of all vestiges of racism and disparate treatment practices perpetrated upon people; and

WHEREAS, BIG believes that Blacks should unite in order to obtain and secure the rights and privileges of full citizenship participation, and to address the collective needs of African Americans in public service and to organize around issues of mutual concern and use collective strengths in confronting workplace and community issues; and

WHEREAS, a formal study has never been performed by the Federal Government for African Americans, "acknowledging the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality and inhumanity of slavery in the United States from 1619 to the present day," for the purpose of submitting a report to Congress for further action and consideration with respect to slavery’s effects on African American lives, economics, and politics; and

WHEREAS, the very buildings including the U.S. Capitol, where laws are made, and the White House, where the Nation is governed, were built by enslaved Africans and their descendants without compensation; and

WHEREAS, at the conclusion of the Civil War, the plan for the economic redistribution of land and resources on behalf of the former slaves of the Confederacy was never enacted; and

WHEREAS, the failure to distribute land prevented newly freed Blacks from achieving true autonomy and made their civil and political rights all but meaningless; and

WHEREAS, conditions comparable to "economic depression" continue even today for millions of African Americans in communities where unemployment often exceeds 50 percent; and

WHEREAS, these disparate conditions became transparent with the effects of Katrina on African Americans in New Orleans, Louisiana who experienced all types of atrocities due to the lack of resources needed to escape the devastation that followed the hurricane; and

WHEREAS, many African Americans in the Nation live under similar disparate conditions even though their plight has not been exposed by an act of nature; and

WHEREAS, the United States needs to address its own wrongs before it tries to police other countries allegedly guilty of the mistreatment of their citizens; and

WHEREAS, after 911 discussions about the evils of terrorism and the acts of terrorism being highlighted in the media around the world resembled the terrorist acts that African Americans suffered from other Americans, specifically the Ku Klux Klan, and other white supremacist individuals and organizations, after emancipation and even until present times; and

WHEREAS, in order to act in one accord as a nation, this flaw in the United States' history against its African American citizens needs to be addressed; and

WHEREAS, Congressman John Conyers, Jr. has introduced H.R. 40 since 1989, and every year since that time, defining the criteria for the study; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (1) that the National Organization of Blacks in Government through its National Board of Directors and the National Executive Committee, all regions and chapters support an Executive Order for the study of reparations for African Americans; and
- (2) that the National Organization of Blacks in Government through its National Board of Directors and the National Executive Committee, all regions and chapters petition the President to issue an Executive Order establishing a commission to study the effects of slavery on African Americans and their descendants; and
- (3) that a written copy of this resolution be delivered to the President of the United States.

Submitted by:

Pat Swailes, Life Member
NOAA Chapter
Silver Spring, Maryland