

This a California Legislature Assembly Resolution by the Honorable Jim Wood, and the Honorable Mike McGuire:

Charles O. Prickett, Ph.D.

Whereas, The people of California hold in high regard and are profoundly inspired by individuals who have worked with great integrity and immutable conviction to end discrimination and advance civil rights for the benefit of all Americans, and included among these courageous activists is Dr. Charles O. Prickett, recipient of the National Education Association's prestigious 2019 Carter G. Woodson Memorial Award, in recognition of his lifetime contributions to the advancement of human and civil rights; and

Whereas, An Illinois native destined to become a participant in and witness to some of the Civil Rights Movement's most iconic events, Dr. Charles Prickett began his advocacy for world peace and justice as a high school student in his hometown of Carbondale and later became a member of the local chapter of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee while attending Southern Illinois University; and

Whereas, In August 1963, Dr. Prickett joined the March on Washington, which united 250,000 like-minded people in an effort to call attention to the pervasive racial inequality in America a century after emancipation and culminated in the nation's capital at the Lincoln Memorial, where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech, and

Whereas, During Mississippi Freedom Summer in 1964, Dr. Prickett conducted voter registration drives and organized local black farmers to vote, and the following year he helped organize Dr. King's Selma to Montgomery March and was among the courageous civil rights marchers attacked by law enforcement officers when they attempted to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge toward Montgomery on Bloody Sunday, March 7, 1965' and

Whereas Dr. Prickett went onto receive advanced degrees, including a Juris Doctor from the University of New Hampshire and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Education from the University of Arizona, and pursued a successful career as a distinguished criminal defense attorney and an educator, in which capacity he has taught in California at California State University (CSU), East Bay, Sonoma State University and CSU San Marcos, and most recently, he served as the District Compliance Officer at Santa Rosa Junior College; and

Whereas, The author of a book about his civil rights experiences, Remembering Mississippi Freedom Summer, and a well-known lecturer who has spoken about the Civil Rights sMovement at

grade schools, high schools, and colleges and universities nationwide, Dr. Charles Prickett remains an inspirational example of the power of committed activism to effect consequential societal change and improve the quality of life for all Americans; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by Assembly Member Jim Wood and Senator Mike McGuire,

That Dr. Charles O. Prickett be commended for his many contributions to advancing the case of civil rights in the United States, applauded for his efforts to educate students of all ages about the Civil Rights Movement, and extend best wishes for the success of his future worthy endeavors.

Member Resolution No. 1452

Dated this 13th day of August, 2019