

MEMORIAL OF THE BOARD OF PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS
OF THE
ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

To the Honorable the Senators and Representatives of the State of Missouri, in the Congress of the United States: MESSRS. CARL SCHURZ, LOUIS V. BOGY, ERASTUS WELLS, E. O. STANARD, WM. H. STONE, ROBT. A. HATCHER, RICHARD P. BLAND, H. E. HAVENS, T. G. CRITTENDEN, ABRAM COMINGO, ISAAC C. PARKER, IRA B. HYDE, JOHN B. CLARK, JR., JOHN M. GLOVER, A. H. BUCKNER.

The undersigned, in behalf of the Board of President and Directors of the St. Louis Public Schools, beg leave herewith to present their memorial praying your honorable body, the delegation of the State of Missouri in the Congress of the United States, to interpose your influence to prevent the passage of any bill through Congress which shall compel all common schools or public institutions of learning or benevolence, supported in whole or in part by public taxation, to admit to the same rooms and classes both white and colored children, unless there shall have been a failure to provide equally for the education of both races in separate schools or institutions.

Your memorialists represent that in St. Louis, public schools have been provided for the colored people in sufficient number to accommodate all who apply for admission, and of as good quality as those schools opened for white children.

Your memorialists would further represent that the passage of a bill, which, like the so-called "Civil Rights Bill," necessitates the admission of both races to the same schools and classes in all instances, would work irreparable injury, if not total destruction, to the Public School system of St. Louis, by causing the withdrawal of large numbers of white children from the Public Schools, and by strengthening the cause of those who are hostile to Public Schools, to such an extent as to secure the repeal of the public tax by which they are supported.

Your memorialists would further represent that the danger which threatens the school interests under their charge, by the passage of a bill of the nature described, is not a danger affecting only a small section of the country, but one that affects in a similar manner the city school systems of at least one-half of the entire country.

In conclusion, your memorialists would beg leave further to express their conviction that the attempt to enforce the establishment of schools common to both races, would seriously injure the cause of education among the colored people themselves, a cause which has made very rapid progress during the past few years, and which has excited the warm interest of your memorialists.

Submitted on behalf of the Board of President and Directors of the St. Louis Public Schools.




President.



Superintendent.

ATTEST:



Secretary.