

54A-F9.1
TRAY # 4220
STACK 8E-4

54TH CONGRESS, }
2D SESSION. }

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

{ RESOLUTION
NO. 543.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FEBRUARY 15, 1897.—Referred to the Committee on Election of President, Vice-President, and Representatives in Congress and ordered to be printed.

Mr. MURRAY submitted the following

RESOLUTION:

Whereas a large number of citizens of the United States residing in the State of South Carolina have memorialized Congress praying for the rejection of what purports to be the electoral vote of the State of South Carolina and alleging that said vote is not an expression of the will of the electors of said State, who have been debarred from exercising their constitutional right of choice by unconstitutional barriers; that a republican form of government does not exist in the State of South Carolina, and praying for the fulfillment of the United States constitutional guarantee of a republican form of government in said State; and

Whereas it is the paramount duty of Congress to see that the Constitution and laws of the United States are faithfully and honestly obeyed in spirit and letter in the State of South Carolina, as well as in any other State or Territory, in accordance with the sworn duty of every Member of both Houses of Congress: Therefore,

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Speaker of this House is hereby au-
- 2 thorized to appoint a committee, consisting of five Members

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3 of this Congress, who will also be Members of the Fifty-fifth
4 Congress, to examine into the complaints and allegations set
5 forth in said memorials, and to recommend by bill or other-
6 wise what may appear to them necessary means for the re-
7 moval of the wrongs complained of, if there be any; and for
8 that purpose the committee is authorized to sit, during the
9 recess of Congress, and during the sessions of the House, at
10 any place in South Carolina, or Washington, District of Co-
11 lumbia, for the prosecution of the duty herein imposed; to
12 send for persons, and to do whatever else may be necessary
13 to facilitate a thorough investigation of the charges and alle-
14 gations contained in said memorials; to administer oaths, and
15 to employ such clerical and other assistance as may be re-
16 quired to properly conduct the work.

17 The Clerk of this House, upon the order of the chair-
18 man of said committee, shall advance, out of the contingent
19 funds of the House, such sums of money as may be required
20 to meet the current expenses of said committee for clerk hire,
21 traveling, and other expenses not exceeding three thousand
22 five hundred dollars, said amount to be promptly accounted
23 for by proper vouchers duly certified by the chairman of said
24 committee.