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1   **HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 49**
2   Offered February 23, 2022
3 *Commemorating the 200th anniversary of the arrival of American settlers at Providence Island, Liberia.*
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Patrons—Mundon King (By Request), Maldonado, Carr, Convirs-Fowler, Durant, Glass, Greenhalgh, Guzman, Hayes, Hudson, Kory, McQuinn, Price, Rasoul, Sewell, Sickles, Simonds, Sullivan, Ward, Willett and Williams Graves

5   ——————

6   WHEREAS, on January 7, 1822, freed slaves from the United States arrived in West Africa to
7 establish a settlement and landed at what is now Providence Island; and
8   WHEREAS, the Black American settlers went ashore at Cape Mesurado and founded Christopolis,
9 which was subsequently renamed Monrovia after United States President James Monroe; and
10   WHEREAS, the settlers joined with the local Kpelle, Bassa, Mano, Kru, Grebo, Krahn, Vai, Gola,
11 Mandinka, Mende, Kissi, Gbandi, Loma, Dei, and Belleh peoples, along with other immigrants from
12 Barbados, to form a dynamic culture and begin to build a rich heritage in the region; and
13   WHEREAS, in 1847, the Republic of Liberia was established with Monrovia as its capital; the
14 Liberian Constitution of 1847 was modeled on the same principles as the Constitution of the United
15 States, and Liberia remains one of the oldest continuous republics in the world; and
16   WHEREAS, the Black Americans who traveled to Providence Island in search of a new home
17 continue to inspire communities around the world through their story of bravery and the pursuit of
18 liberty; now, therefore, be it
19   RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, That the 200th anniversary of the arrival of American
20 settlers at Providence Island, Liberia, hereby be commemorated in 2022; and, be it
21   RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates prepare a copy of this resolution
22 for presentation to representatives of the Americo-Liberian community as an expression of the House of
23 Delegates' admiration for the deep historical ties between the United States and the Republic of Liberia.