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Resolution recognizes Martin Luther King Day

A resolution which will recognize Jan. 15 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day passed in the Nebraska Legislature 30-1-18 Friday, the third day of the 87th legislative session.

According to one of the resolution's authors, Sen. Dave Landis of Lincoln, the day is officially recognized by the governor under state statutes.

The resolution, co-sponsored by Omaha Sen. Ernest Chambers, shows legislative approval for the "day of recognition of Martin Luther King," Landis said. It also urges citizens of Nebraska to observe the day.

According to the resolution, the Jan. 15 commemoration King's birthday is a recognition of the black leader's "promotion of equality of man and furtherance of peace," his involvement in the passage of civil rights legislation and his reception of the Nobel Peace Prize.

When Sen. William Nichol of Scottsbluff asked Landis if he "intends to make it another day we pay state employees for not working," Landis said the day would remain a regular working day under the resolution.

Landis said no specific activities are planned on the state level for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. However, activities at the Malone Community Center and Lincoln High School are planned, he said.

Malone Center activities includes a "People's March" on Saturday, said a center spokeswoman. The march will begin at 10 a.m. at 2030 T St., and it will end at the Capitol Rotunda. A short program will follow at the capitol.

On Jan. 15, a Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Lincoln High School auditorium. The program will include speakers, music and other activities, the spokeswoman said.

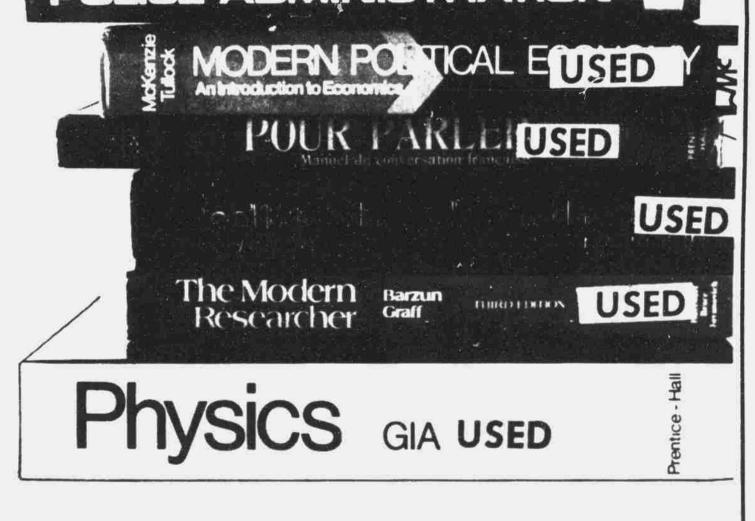


Photo by Mark Billingsley

Lincoln Sen. David Landis, who with Sen. Ernest Chambers of Omaha sponsored a resolution designating Jan. 15 as Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, speaks before the Nebraska Legislature in support of his resolution.

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