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Report Delivery

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PRESIDENT LYNDON B. JOHNSON
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

1965 MAR 19

PERTINENT PORTIONS OF A RESOLUTION PASSED ON THIS DAY BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

"1. THAT THE GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA BE REQUESTED TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES THAT THE STATE OF ALABAMA IS WILLING TO CALL THE NATIONAL GUARD OF THIS STATE

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TO STATE ACTIVE DUTY AT ANY TIME TO PROTECT THE LIFE AND PROPERTY OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS STATE; HOWEVER, THE PROPOSED MARCH FROM SELMA, ALABAMA, TO MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA, BY SO CALLED DEMONSTRATORS, ALONG A U. S. HIGHWAY HAS BEEN ORDERED BY A FEDERAL COURT AND THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE USED TO PAY THE COST OF MOBILIZATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD OF ALABAMA. FOR THIS REASON, AS WELL AS FOR THE REASONS HEREINAFTER SET FORTH, THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA IS UNWILLING TO RECOMMEND THAT THE GUARD BE CALLED.

2. THE STATE OF ALABAMA IS NOT FINANCIALLY ABLE TO PAY THE EXPENSES OF PROVIDING NECESSARY PROTECTION TO DEMONSTRATORS WITHOUT IMPAIRING THE GENERAL FUND OF THIS STATE

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WHICH SUPPORTS THE HUNDREDS OF NECESSARY SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE OF OUR STATE AND WHICH REPRESENTS THE ONLY SOURCE OF FUNDS TO THIS STATE.

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3. THAT FUTURE UNRESTRICTED ACTIVITIES OF SO-CALLED DEMONSTRATORS AS MAY OCCUR OR BE AUTHORIZED BY FUTURE FEDERAL COURT ORDERS MAKES IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE LEGISLATURE TO DETERMINE THE COSTS WHICH WILL BE INCURRED TO PROVIDE FOR THE SAFETY AND WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE OF OUR STATE AND OF THE SO-CALLED DEMONSTRATORS.

4. THAT IT IS THE OPINION OF THE LEGISLATURE THAT WE ARE FINANCIALLY UNABLE TO BEAR THE EXPENSE OF CALLING THE

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ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD TO STATE ACTIVE DUTY WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING THE ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE STATE OF ALABAMA, AND WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THE GOVERNOR OF THIS STATE TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THIS FACT."

MR. PRESIDENT, I AM WILLING TO DO WHATEVER IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN PEACE AND ORDER, INCLUDING CALLING THE ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD. HOWEVER, OUR STATE IS FINANCIALLY UNABLE TO BEAR THIS BURDEN. THEREFORE, I RESPECTFULLY INFORM YOU THAT IDO CONCUR WITH THE ACTION OF THE ALABAMA LEGISLATURE. IT IS MY SINCERE PRAYER THAT LAW AND ORDER WILL PREVAIL.

RESPECTFULLY,

GEORGE C. WALLACE
GOVERNOR OF ALABAMA