RESOLUTION

BIG HONORS SARAH HAYCOX FOR SPEARHEADING THE EARLY LEARNING CENTER TO BE NAMED IN HONOR OF SLAIN CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER EDWIN T. PRATT*

WHEREAS, the National Organization of Blacks In Government (BIG), was incorporated in 1976, as a 501[c]3 non-profit organization to, educate and advocate on behalf of Federal, State and Municipal government employees and today, BIG seeks to represent 2.5 million public and private civil servants by continuing to address discrimination in the workplace and its effect on public service; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Haycox, 11, was walking through a park in Shoreline, Washington, when she came across something curious: a stone with a plaque in tribute to "Edwin T. Pratt, 1930 to 1969."

WHEREAS, as CBS News reported last year, there were no other markings, and no one was around to ask and so, Sarah took it upon herself to learn all she could about the life and death of Edwin Pratt; and

WHEREAS, Sarah learned Edwin T. Pratt was Director of the Seattle Urban League and worked on school desegregation. She also learned he was the first black person to move into Sarah's town, which would be a bold and fatal decision because Pratt was assassinated on his front porch and is survived by his wife and children; and.

WHEREAS, the Jim Crow era, from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century, made a mockery of the 15th Amendment. White supremacist terrorists carried out nearly 5,000 documented lynching’s of Black Americans to enforce their ideology; and

WHEREAS, Sarah noticed that across the street from her school, the district was putting up a new early learning center. She found out it didn't have a name and launched a petition drive and, went all over town explaining to anyone who would listen why the new building should be named after Edwin T. Pratt; and

WHEREAS, ultimately Sarah’s tenacity and drive to gather support left the school board with no choice but to vote on her recommendation to name the newly constructed learning center after Edwin T. Pratt; and

WHEREAS, it's been less than a year since CBS News first told this story (see CBS Story on https://cbsn.ws/2WrBRbQ) and today, the Edwin Pratt Early Learning Center is open for business and Sarah recently took a tour with some Pratt relatives who flew in to meet her and rediscover their relative; and
WHEREAS, Edwin Pratt’s family stated; "We, as a family, have gotten to know more about my uncle than I think we ever would have, had this not happened. And we can’t ever thank you (Sarah) enough for that," one relative said; and

WHEREAS, because of Sarah, there will never be another kid in Shoreline who doesn’t know the name Edwin T. Pratt. Someday, if she keeps this up, everyone will also know the name Sarah Haycox to be remembered by Blacks In Government.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(1) BIG will send a plaque and letter to Sarah Haycox thanking her for honoring a fallen civil rights leader by spearheading a movement to have his name memorialized in the education of others through an early learning center.

(2) BIG National President will send a letter to the Pratt Family advising them of BIG appreciation honoring Sarah Haycox for her tenacity and support to honor a slain civil rights leader.

(3) BIG National President will send an email letter to CBS ‘On the Road’ Executive Producer at OnTheRoad@cbsnews.com and reporter Steve Hartman advising of this BIG Resolution and thanking them both for airing this story.

The Haycox Family
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Submitted by:

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*Some of the language in this resolution is verbatim from CBS Steve Hartman’s ‘On The Road’ News Story* https://cbsn.ws/2WrBRbQ