

WASHINGTON, DC - House Majority Leader Steny H. Hoyer (MD) released the following statement today on the 45th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964:

“Today, Americans recognize the 45th anniversary of the passage of the Civil Rights Act, a truly historic piece of legislation that remains as profoundly important today as it was in 1964. The Act made segregation in American public life illegal, and secured for all men and women, regardless of the color of their skin, the inalienable rights to which they had always been entitled as American citizens. The Civil Rights Act heralded a new era in American history, an era whose legacy we continue to build on today.

“In celebrating the Civil Rights Act, we also honor those who had the courage and determination to do what was necessary to see it pass: ordinary Americans who made tremendous sacrifices, surrendering their jobs, their safety, and their lives in pursuit of a better future. The Civil Rights Act represents the triumph of hope over fear, of peaceful protest over violent repression, and of democracy over division. On its 45th Anniversary, we recommit ourselves to fulfilling the promise of the Civil Rights Act by continuing to fight inequality and injustice wherever we see it.”

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