

**RESOLUTIONS**  
OF  
**THE LEGISLATURE OF CONNECTICUT,**

INSTRUCTING.

*Their senators and requesting their representatives to oppose, by all lawful means, and to the last extremity, the bill to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas, with the clause abrogating the prohibition of slavery, known as the Missouri compromise.*

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MAY 22, 1854.—Ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT,

GENERAL ASSEMBLY—MAY SESSION, 1854.

Whereas, a bill is now pending in the Congress of the United States for the organization of the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, by which the eighth section of the act preparatory to the admission of Missouri, approved March 6, 1820, is declared inoperative and void:

1. *Resolved by this general assembly,* That the form of the prohibition of slavery, in the act of 1820, as well as its incorporation in an act designed to be irrevocable, pledged the public faith, to the whole extent of the power of Congress so to do, against any repeal of the prohibition so enacted, and that the people of Connecticut have therefore relied upon the perpetuity of that enactment, with full confidence in the integrity and honor, both of the national government, and of those States which sustain the institution of slavery within their own jurisdiction.

2. *Resolved,* That in the name, and in behalf of the people of this State, we protest against the proposed repeal of the prohibition of slavery in the act preparatory to the admission of Missouri, as a violation of the national faith, as destructive of mutual confidence between the States of this Union, as exposing the Union itself to imminent peril, and as inconsistent with the fundamental principles of natural justice.

3. *Resolved,* That we declare our fixed purpose never to consent to the legal or actual admission of slavery into the territory from which it was excluded by the act of 1820, or to the admission of slaveholding States from any portion of the same.

4. *Resolved,* That the attempt to extend slavery over a vast region, from which it has been by law excluded with the consent of the slaveholding States, ought to awaken the people of Connecticut to the aggressive character of slavery as a political power, and to unite them in

determined hostility to its extension, and to its existence wherever it comes constitutionally within the reach of federal legislation.

5. *Resolved*, That this general assembly hereby declares itself ready to co-operate with other States, in any legal and constitutional measures, which the existing crisis or its consequences shall demand, for the preservation of our rights, and in defence of liberty.

6. *Resolved*, That our senators in Congress be instructed, and that our representatives be earnestly requested, to oppose, by all lawful means, and to the last extremity, the bill under consideration, with the clause abrogating the prohibition of slavery, known as the Missouri compromise.

7. *Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the senators and representatives of this State in the Congress of the United States, to be by them laid before that body, and to the executives of the several States of this Union.

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT, ss., *Office of Secretary of State.*

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of record in this office.

In testimony whereof, I have hercunto set my hand, and affixed the [SEAL.] seal of said State, at New Haven, this 18th day of May, A. D. 1854.

O. H. PERRY,  
*Secretary of State,*