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1. Sumner Civil Rights Bill, 12/01/1873

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1986640

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HR43A-C1

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[U.S. House of Representatives. \(03/04/1789 - \) \(Most Recent\)](#)

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Sumner Civil Rights Bill

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Subjects Represented in the Archival Material(s):

[African Americans](#)
[Civil rights](#)
[Reconstruction](#)

Contributors to Authorship and/or Production of the Archival Material(s):

[Sumner, Charles, 1811-1874, Originator](#)

Scope & Content

This bill proposed to prohibit racial discrimination in public accommodations, such as hotels, theaters, transportation, and schools. It was introduced by Senator Charles Sumner, an outspoken advocate for civil rights, and was signed into law on March 1, 1875 (18 Stat 335). Prior to passage, Congress removed the clause which prohibited discrimination in public schools. In 1883, the law was struck down as unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

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