

**Alabama Legislature approves slavery apology**  
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**MONTGOMERY, Alabama:** The Alabama Legislature passed a resolution Thursday expressing "profound regret" for the state's role in slavery and apologizing for slavery's wrongs and lingering effects on the United States.

When Governor Bob Riley signs the bill, which a spokesman said he will do, Alabama will become the fourth U.S. state to formally apologize for slavery in recent months, after Virginia, Maryland and North Carolina.

State Senator Hank Sanders, who guided the resolution through the Senate, said the vote "sends a message that Alabama is finally standing on its history rather than having its history weigh it down."

Sanders said the resolution made it clear that it cannot be used as the basis for litigation. "Everybody detests slavery," said House Minority Leader Mike Hubbard. But he said some Republicans opposed the resolution because they felt it contained "inflammatory language."