

2007 SENATE RESOLUTION 25

February 27, 2008 – Introduced by Senators COGGS, TAYLOR, CARPENTER, LASSA and ROESSLER. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** the life and public service of Mr. Booker Townsell for fighting for fair
2 and equal justice.

3 Whereas, the late Mr. Booker Townsell was recently exonerated of an unjust
4 1944 court-martial by the United States Army and has since received an honorable
5 discharge following a recent review of the case; and

6 Whereas, Mr. Booker Townsell was court-martialed with 27 other
7 African-American soldiers stationed at Fort Lawton in Seattle, Washington, who
8 were accused of lynching an Italian prisoner of war that resulted in a two-year
9 incarceration and dishonorable discharge for Private Townsell; and

10 Whereas, Mr. Booker Townsell and the other soldiers' cause was championed
11 by author Jack Hamann who wrote the recently released book, *On American Soil:
12 How Justice Became a Casualty of World War II*, resulting in a bipartisan call in the
13 United States Congress by Congressman Jack McDermott of Seattle, Washington,
14 and Congressman Duncan Hunter of California for a review of the wrongful
15 convictions; and

