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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

MARCH 25, 1869.

Mr. RICE asked, and by unanimous consent obtained, leave to bring in the following bill; which was read twice and ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

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**A BILL**

To enforce the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution and the laws of the United States, and to restore the State of Georgia to the republican government elected under its new constitution.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representu-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That the governor of the State of Georgia be, and hereby is,  
4       authorized forthwith, by proclamation, to summon all persons  
5       appearing to have been elected to the senate and house of  
6       representatives of said State by the proclamation of Major  
7       General George G. Meade, commanding the third military  
8       district, including the State of Georgia, dated June twenty-  
9       fifth, eighteen hundred and sixty-eight, to appear at a day  
10      certain, to be named in said proclamation, at Atlanta, in said  
11      State, within six months from the passage of this act;  
12      whereupon the members of said senate and house of repre-  
13      sentatives, qualified as hereinafter provided, shall assemble on

14 the day named, and organize their respective houses under  
15 the laws of the United States and the constitution and laws  
16 of the State of Georgia, and then shall be invested with  
17 authority to make such enactments and have such legislative  
18 proceedings as are authorized by the laws of the United States  
19 and the constitution of the State of Georgia.

1       SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That when the persons  
2 so elected to said senate and house of representatives shall be  
3 convened as aforesaid, each and every person claiming to be  
4 elected as a member thereof shall take and subscribe the oaths  
5 of office required by law for officers of the United States, and  
6 by the constitution and land laws of the State of Georgia, be-  
7 fore the district judge of the United States for the district of  
8 Georgia, who is hereby authorized to administer the same  
9 and file the same in the office of the secretary of the State of  
10 Georgia, unless the disability of such person so to do shall  
11 have been removed by act of Congress, which oaths  
12 shall be recorded by the secretary of the State of Georgia;  
13 and the originals, or a copy of the record thereof, duly cer-  
14 tified by said secretary of state, shall be competent evidence;  
15 and every person claiming to be so elected, who shall refuse  
16 or decline or neglect to be unable to qualify himself, as above  
17 provided, shall not be admitted to a seat in the senate or house  
18 of representatives of said State, or to participate in the pro-  
19 ceedings of either of them, but shall be regarded as ineligible;

20 and any false swearing in taking either of said oaths may be  
21 punished as perjury, under the laws of the United States,  
22 before the district court thereof.

1       SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted,* That the attempted  
2 expulsion of the members of the senate and house of repre-  
3 sentatives of the State of Georgia, heretofore had, on the  
4 ground that they were of African descent, is hereby declared  
5 void.

1       SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted,* That whoever shall  
2 exercise or claim to exercise the powers and duties of any  
3 office, either legislative, executive, judicial, or administrative,  
4 being disqualified by law from holding office under the United  
5 States government because of participation in any manner in  
6 the late rebellion, or who shall have exercised the duties of  
7 any office or public station where, by law, he was required to  
8 take an oath to support the Constitution of the United  
9 States, and thereafter engaged in insurrection or rebellion  
10 against the United States, or gave aid or comfort to its ene-  
11 mies, or rendered voluntary or involuntary support or aid  
12 to any insurrection or rebellion against the United  
13 States, or held any office under, or gave any support to,  
14 any government of any kind organized in hostility to the  
15 United States, or levying war against the United States, unless  
16 he shall have been relieved by act of Congress, as provided  
17 by section three of the fourteenth amendment to the Consti-

18 tution of the United States, from the disability thus incurred,  
19 shall be punished, on conviction before the district court of  
20 the United States, by imprisonment not less than one year  
21 nor more than five years; and, in addition, be forever disqual-  
22 ified from holding any office of honor or profit under the laws  
23 of the United States.

1       SEC. 5. *And be it further enacted,* That any person  
2 knowingly hindering, delaying, or preventing the due execu-  
3 tion of the provisions of this act, or of either of them, may  
4 be punished therefor in the manner and to the extent pro-  
5 vided for in the fourth section hereof.

1       SEC. 6. *And be it further enacted,* That the President  
2 shall cause to be stationed in said State such part of the armed  
3 forces of the United States as shall be necessary to carry  
4 this act into full execution; and all officers in command of  
5 such forces shall, on demmand of the governor of said State,  
6 render aid and assistance in the administration of the govern-  
7 ment, the protection of life and property, and the administra-  
8 tion of justice in said State.

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