I celebrate President Biden’s designation of the Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument, with sites in Illinois and Mississippi. It is critical that Emmett Till’s story and racially motivated murder be told by preserving the places that highlight this tragedy.

We know that the 5,000 documented lynchings that occurred in the US from 1882 to 1968 were designed to terrorize and control Black people. With her brave actions, Mamie Till-Mobley helped break the silence about the devastating facts of lynching in the US.

It is critical that we preserve the stories of all Americans. Preservation of stories through National Monument designation is a critical mechanism to preserve Black history. The Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley National Monument tells an important part of Black history and paves the way for additional National Monuments that tell the full story of Black history.

Dr. Sam Tolbert
President
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