**Additional Standard for consideration for the Virginia and United States History Curriculum Framework**

**STANDARD VUS.8g**

**The student will apply social science skills to understand how the nation grew and changed from the end of Reconstruction through the early twentieth century by**

**g) analyzing the impact of lynching and racial terror on the lives of African Americans and explain the efforts used to combat the widespread lynching of the 1890s and beyond.**

**Essential Understandings**

Lynching was the illegal killing of people by gangs of violent vigilantes. It intensified following post-Reconstruction to restrain African Americans from advancing in society and from becoming active and participating citizens.

**Lynching**

* Occurred in all parts of the country and sometimes against accused white people, but increasingly targeted African Americans in the South
* Was meant to intimidate African Americans from asserting themselves in any way, including politically
* Were sometimes planned, public events that people came to watch.
* Grew most prevalent at the same time as segregation and disfranchisement laws, in the 1890s and early 1900s, when thousands of African Americans were killed.
* Thousands of southern African Americans had been murdered in the 1890s, with significant numbers in Georgia and Mississippi.

**Efforts to combat Lynching**

* Ida B. Wells-Barnett was instrumental in creating several national organizations, including the Niagara Movement, out of which, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) evolved.
* The passage of anti-lynching legislation eventually became one of the NAACP’s central goals.
* Between 1901 and 1929, more than 1,200 African Americans were lynched in the South.
* The NAACP published a report, *Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States, 1889–1919*, that created momentum for congressional action. The anti-lynching effort helped the NAACP to wage a mass public relations campaign and gain congressional support.
* Since 1918, Congress has considered nearly 200 anti-lynching bills in the first half of the 20th century without passing any of them.
* In 2018, Justice for Victims of Lynching Act of 2018, unanimously passed in the United States Senate. This legislation made lynching a federal crime. The bill later died because it was not passed by the House before the 115th Congress ended on January 3, 2019
* Through investigation for the bill, it stated that at least 4,742 people, mostly African Americans, were lynched in the United States between 1882 and 1968.