

Longfellow House - Washington's Headquarters
National Historic Site



Charles Sumner

Born: January 6, 1811

Died: March 11, 1874

Charles Sumner was an abolitionist, lawyer, United States senator from Massachusetts, and poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's best friend. A strong civil rights advocate, in 1848 he and the African American attorney, Robert Morris, defended a young girl who was not allowed to attend a nearby school because she was black. Sumner also helped write the first civil rights bill.

To learn more, visit: www.nps.gov/long

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