

Union head asks Islanders to attend King rally in D.C.

A Staten Island union leader has called on black people and other citizens to attend a rally in Washington, D.C., tomorrow aimed at getting Martin Luther King Day proclaimed a national holiday.

Felton King, president of Local 429 of the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA), which represents many employees of the Staten Island Developmental Center, Willowbrook, said buses were chartered to leave at 5:30 a.m. from

Jewett Ave. and Victory Blvd., Meiers Corners, to bring them to the march down Pennsylvania Ave. The rally is expected to draw attendance from all over the country.

"We feel that Dr. King gave his life to the cause of freedom for not only blacks but Hispanics and whites as well," the union leader said. "He was the first black ever to receive the Nobel Peace Prize," he noted, and "we feel he's the right man to have a national holiday named after."