

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 4797

To redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, as the “Nat King Cole Post Office”.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 2002

Mr. BECERRA (for himself, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. WATSON of California, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FROST, Mr. OWENS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. McNULTY, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. HONDA, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STARK, Ms. SANCHEZ, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD, Mr. BACA, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. LEE, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PASTOR, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. HORN, Mr. HERGER, Mr. OSE, Mr. POMBO, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. FARR of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. WATERS, Ms. HARMAN, Mrs. MEEK of Florida, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CONDIT, Mrs. BONO, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. DOOLITTLE, Mr. DREIER, Mr. McKEON, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. CALVERT, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. COX, Mr. ISSA, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. DOOLEY of California, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. RADANOVICH, and Mr. FILNER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

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## A BILL

To redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, as the “Nat King Cole Post Office”.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Nat King Cole was born Nathaniel Adams  
6 Coles in Montgomery, Alabama, during the difficult  
7 period of segregation in the United States, and was  
8 raised in the ghettos of the south side of Chicago,  
9 Illinois, where he endured the harshness of poverty.

10 (2) Nat King Cole was often confronted with  
11 racism during his career, including being attacked  
12 by members of a white supremacist group while he  
13 was on stage in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1956.

14 (3) Nat King Cole allowed neither poverty nor  
15 racism to prevent him from sharing his music with  
16 people worldwide and from leaving a lasting impres-  
17 sion on American culture.

18 (4) Nat King Cole established himself as the  
19 best selling African-American recording artist of his  
20 generation.

21 (5) Nat King Cole and his family became the  
22 first African-American family to integrate the com-  
23 munity of Hancock Park in Los Angeles when, de-  
24 spite threats and protests from local residents, they  
25 purchased their English Tudor mansion in 1948.

1           (6) “The Nat King Cole Show”, primarily  
2 broadcast from Burbank, California, aired nationally  
3 for more than a year beginning in 1956 and was the  
4 first television show to be hosted by an African-  
5 American artist.

6           (7) Nat King Cole graced southern California  
7 with his music during the formative years of his  
8 music career and formed the successful “King Cole  
9 Trio” in Los Angeles, California.

10          (8) Nat King Cole’s recording of “Route 66”  
11 serenaded generations of eager California immi-  
12 grants.

13          (9) Nat King Cole’s recorded rendition of “The  
14 Christmas Song” symbolizes the family warmth of  
15 the yuletide season.

16          (10) Nat King Cole’s disarming delivery teaches  
17 people the meaning of “Unforgettable”.

18          (11) Although Nat King Cole died from lung  
19 cancer on February 15, 1965, the music and em-  
20 bracing baritone voice of Nat King Cole are lasting  
21 legacies that continue to be enjoyed by people world-  
22 wide.

23          (12) Nat King Cole exemplifies the American  
24 dream by having overcome societal and other bar-

1 riers to become one of the great American enter-  
2 tainers.

3 (13) Members of the community surrounding  
4 the Oakwood Station Post Office in Los Angeles,  
5 California, have advocated for the renaming of the  
6 post office in honor of Nat King Cole, a former resi-  
7 dent of the area.

8 **SEC. 2. REDESIGNATION AND REFERENCES.**

9 (a) REDESIGNATION.—The facility of the United  
10 States Postal Service located at 265 South Western Ave-  
11 nue, Los Angeles, California, and known as the Oakwood  
12 Station Post Office, shall be known and designated as the  
13 “Nat King Cole Post Office”.

14 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-  
15 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United  
16 States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall  
17 be deemed to be a reference to the “Nat King Cole Post  
18 Office”.

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