

the Oakland Post, a prominent African-American newspaper; and

in August 2015, a reporter and cameraman for television station WDBJ7 were shot dead during a live broadcast in Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia.

At least 59 journalists have been murdered or killed in the United States while reporting, while covering a military conflict, or simply because of their status as a journalist.

While Annapolis and most of the Nation rallied in support of the survivors of the Capital Gazette shooting, the paper reported receiving new death threats and emails celebrating the attack. This is not right in America or anywhere else.

Journalists, like all Americans, should be free from the fear of being violently attacked while doing their job—both figuratively and literally. The right of journalists to report the news is nothing less than the right of all of us to know, to understand what is happening around us and to us. Media freedom and media pluralism are essential for the expression of, or ensuring respect for, other fundamental freedoms and safeguarding democracy, the rule of law, and a system of checks and balances.

Every one of us in this body—Democrats and Republicans—has sworn an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. We bear the solemn responsibility of defending freedom of the press. It is time for us to redouble our efforts both here at home and abroad. We must lead by example. The very foundation and legitimacy of our democratic republic are at stake. One way to start is by memorializing those brave men and women who have died or been killed, as the New York Times' Adolph S. Ochs put it in 1896, "to give the news impartially, without fear or favor, regardless of party, sect, or interests involved."

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 263—HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. JONES) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 263

Whereas The American Legion was founded on March 15, 1919;

Whereas Congress chartered The American Legion on September 16, 1919;

Whereas, in 2019, The American Legion celebrates 100 years of serving veterans of the Armed Forces, their families, and communities;

Whereas The American Legion is the largest wartime veterans service organization in the United States;

Whereas The American Legion is headquartered in Indianapolis, Indiana, and has approximately 2,000,000 members of the Armed Forces and veterans in its membership;

Whereas The American Legion has counted among its members 10 Presidents of the United States;

Whereas The American Legion has played a vital role in advocating for veterans' affairs, including the passage of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (commonly known as the "G.I. Bill") (58 Stat. 284, chapter 268) and the creation of the Department of Veterans Affairs;

Whereas The American Legion has shown steadfast dedication to improving local communities, contributing approximately 3,700,000 volunteer community service hours annually and millions of dollars in college scholarships to students across the United States; and

Whereas the mantra of The American Legion's 100th anniversary, "Legacy and Vision", is an apt description of the contributions of The American Legion to life in the United States throughout 100 years of service and mutual helpfulness: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that The American Legion has been a cornerstone of life in the United States from the local to the Federal level for 100 years and serves as a constant reminder of the inestimable contributions the members of the Armed Forces have made to enrich life in the United States during and after their service;

(2) honors the vital role The American Legion has played in the United States throughout 100 years of service;

(3) remembers the deep and lasting mark Legionnaires have made throughout 100 years of history of the United States; and

(4) celebrates the continued position of The American Legion as an inextinguishable beacon of community, responsibility, honor, and service.

SENATE RESOLUTION 264—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN AMERICANS TO THE MUSICAL HERITAGE OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE NEED FOR GREATER ACCESS TO MUSIC EDUCATION FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDENTS, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JUNE AS AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSIC APPRECIATION MONTH

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. JONES, Mr. CARPER, Mr. COONS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BROWN, and Ms. HARRIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 264

Whereas spirituals, ragtime, blues, jazz, gospel, classical composition, and countless other categories of music have been created or enhanced by African Americans, and are etched into the history and culture of the United States;

Whereas the first Africans transported to the United States came from a variety of ethnic groups with a long history of distinct and cultivated musical traditions, brought musical instruments with them, and built new musical instruments in the United States;

Whereas spirituals were a distinct response to the conditions of African slavery in the United States, and expressed the longing of enslaved people for spiritual and bodily freedom, for safety from harm and evil, and for relief from the hardships of slavery;

Whereas jazz, arguably the most creative and complex music that the United States has produced, combines the musical traditions of African Americans in New Orleans with the creative flexibility of blues music;

Whereas country music is based on a combination of musical influences, including the rhythmic influences and musical instruments of African immigrants, and was performed by musicians such as DeFord Bailey, who was the first African American to star in the Grand Ole Opry;

Whereas masterful trumpeters Louis Armstrong and Miles Davis achieved national and international recognition with the success of "West End Blues" by Louis Armstrong in the 1920s and "So What" by Miles Davis in the late 1950s;

Whereas talented jazz pianist and vocalist Nathaniel Adams Coles recorded more than 150 singles and sold more than 50 million records;

Whereas the talent of Ella Fitzgerald, winner of 13 Grammys, is epitomized by a rendition of "Summertime", a bluesy record accompanied by melodic vocals;

Whereas Natalie Cole, the daughter of Nathaniel Adams Coles, achieved musical success in the mid-1970s as a rhythm and blues artist with the hits "This Will Be" and "Unforgettable";

Whereas in the 1940s, bebop evolved through jam sessions, which included trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie and the alto saxophonist Charlie Parker, that were held at clubs in Harlem, New York, such as Minton's Playhouse;

Whereas earlier classical singers such as Elizabeth Taylor Greenfield, one of the first widely known African-American vocalists, and other early African-American singing pioneers, including Nellie Mitchell Brown, Marie Selika Williams, Rachel Walker Turner, Marian Anderson, and Flora Batson Bergen, paved the way for female African-American concert singers who have achieved great popularity during the last 50 years;

Whereas the term "rhythm and blues" originated in the late 1940s as a way to describe recordings marketed to African Americans and replaced the term "race music";

Whereas lyrical themes in rhythm and blues often encapsulate the African-American experience of pain, the quest for freedom, joy, triumphs and failures, relationships, economics, and aspiration, and were popularized by artists such as Ruth Brown, Etta James, and Otis Redding;

Whereas soul music originated in the African-American community in the late 1950s and early 1960s and combines elements of African-American gospel music, rhythm and blues, and jazz, and was popularized by artists such as Aretha Franklin, James Brown, Ray Charles, Sam Cooke, and Jackie Wilson;

Whereas Motown, founded as a record label in 1959, evolved into a distinctive style known for the "Motown Sound", a blend of pop and soul musical stylings made popular by prominent Black artists such as Marvin Gaye, James Mason, and Mary Wells;

Whereas in the early 1970s, the musical style of disco emerged and was popularized by programs such as Soul Train and by artists such as Donna Summer;

Whereas reggae is a genre of music that originated in Jamaica in the late 1960s and incorporates some of the musical elements of rhythm and blues, jazz, mento, calypso, and African music, and was popularized by artists such as Bob Marley;

Whereas rock and roll was developed from African-American musical styles such as gospel and rhythm and blues, and was popularized by artists such as Chuck Berry, Bo Diddley, and Jimi Hendrix;