

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 Ray Charles, Ruth Brown, Etta James, and Otis Redding;

Whereas soul music originated in the African-American community in the late 1950s and early 1960s, 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, Bill Withers, 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, Little Richard, and Jimi Hendrix;

Whereas rap, arguably the most complex and influential form of hip-hop culture, combines blues, jazz, and soul, elements of the African-American musical tradition, with Caribbean calypso, dub, and dance hall reggae;

Whereas the development and popularity of old style rap combined confident beats with wordplay and storytelling, highlighting the struggle of African-American youth growing up in underresourced neighborhoods;

Whereas contemporary rhythm and blues, which originated in the late 1970s and combines elements of pop, rhythm and blues, soul, funk, hip hop, gospel, and electronic dance music was popularized by artists such as Whitney Houston and Aaliyah;

Whereas Prince Rogers Nelson, who was known for electric performances and a wide vocal range, pioneered music that integrated a wide variety of styles, including funk, rock, contemporary rhythm and blues, new wave, soul, psychedelia, and pop;

Whereas a recent study by the Department of Education found that only 28 percent of African-American students receive any kind of arts education;

Whereas African-American students scored the lowest of all ethnicities in the most recent National Assessment for Educational Progress arts assessment;

Whereas students who are eligible for the school lunch program established under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) have significantly lower scores on the music portion of the National Assessment for Educational Progress arts assessment than students who are ineligible for that program, which suggests that students in low-income families are disadvantaged in the subject of music;

Whereas a recent study found that—

(1) nearly ¾ of music ensemble students were White and middle class, and only 15 percent of those students were African-American; and

(2) only 7 percent of music teacher licensure candidates were African-American; and

Whereas students of color face many barriers to accessing music education and training, especially students in large urban public schools: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes—

(A) the contributions of African Americans to the musical heritage of the United States;

(B) the wide array of talented and popular African-American musical artists, composers, songwriters, and musicians who are underrecognized for contributions to music;

(C) the achievements, talent, and hard work of African-American pioneer artists and the obstacles that those artists overcame to gain recognition;

(D) the need for African-American students to have greater access to, and participation in, music education in schools across the United States; and

(E) Black History Month and African-American Music Appreciation Month as an important time—

(i) to celebrate the impact of the African-American musical heritage on the musical heritage of the United States; and

(ii) to encourage greater access to music education so that the next generation may continue to greatly contribute to the musical heritage of the United States; and

(2) designates June 2020 as "African-American Music Appreciation Month".

SENATE RESOLUTION 644—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE SHOULD REMAIN A STRONG AND UNIVERSAL SERVICE FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES, AND SHOULD RECEIVE AN APPROPRIATION TO OFFSET REVENUES LOST DUE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. JONES, Mr. COONS, Mr. REED, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. UDALL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. KING, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BROWN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. Kaine, Mr. CASEY, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. WARNER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 644

Whereas the United States Postal Service is, by law, "a basic and fundamental service provided to the people by the Government of the United States, authorized by the Constitution, created by Act of Congress, and supported by the people";

Whereas the United States Postal Service is obligated under the law to "provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas" and "render services to all communities", in such a way so that "the costs of the Postal Service shall not be apportioned to impair the overall value of such service to the people";

Whereas the United States Postal Service maintains a universal network that connects all rural, suburban, and urban communities in the United States;

Whereas the United States Postal Service carries necessary correspondence and goods to each community, including prescriptions and critical medications;

Whereas the United States Postal Service uniquely serves "the last mile", delivering to every business and residential customer not fewer than 6 days per week;

Whereas the United States Postal Service helps small businesses stay connected with their customers no matter where they live;

Whereas more than 630,000 employees work for the United States Postal Service, including more than 97,000 military veterans, to carry out this mission; and

Whereas the United States Postal Service is at the center of the mailing industry, which generates \$1,600,000,000,000 annually and employs approximately 7,300,000 individuals in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate—

(1) that the United States Postal Service—

(A) should not close post offices or facilities, especially in areas that would otherwise lack access to the services these facilities provide;

(B) should not reduce its standards of service, or prevent individuals and businesses in every community from receiving their mail expediently and predictably;

(C) should not unduly or excessively raise the prices of its products or services in such a way as to jeopardize the affordability and accessibility of such products and services in each community across the nation; and

(D) should maintain prompt, reliable, and efficient services to all patrons affordably, as required under the law and by the people of the United States; and

(2) that Congress should appropriate funds to offset lost revenues of the United States Postal Service during the COVID-19 emergency and should take all appropriate measures to ensure the United States Postal Service maintains its services and remains an accessible, independent establishment of the Federal Government.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2389. Mr. SCOTT, of South Carolina submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4049, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2021 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2390. Mr. ROUNDS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2301 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill S. 4049, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2391. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2301 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill S. 4049, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2392. Mr. KING (for himself and Mr. SASSE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4049, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2393. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2301 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill S. 4049, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2394. Mr. JOHNSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2301 proposed by Mr. INHOFE to the bill S. 4049, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.