

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 493

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued honoring the Fisk Jubilee Singers, and that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that such a stamp be issued.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 4, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that a commemorative postage stamp should be issued honoring the Fisk Jubilee Singers, and that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that such a stamp be issued.

Whereas, 6 months after the end of the Civil War, the Fisk School was established in Nashville, Tennessee;

Whereas the Fisk School was designed by its founders to be an educational institution open to all, regardless of race or age;

Whereas the Fisk School was incorporated as Fisk University in 1867;

Whereas funding for the opening of the school was secured through the sale of slave paraphernalia;

Whereas, in 1871, a group of students at Fisk University formed a choral group with the goal of raising money to finance the institution;

Whereas, in that same year, that choral group, the Fisk Jubilee Singers, took the entire contents of the University treasury with them for travel expenses and set off on a tour of the United States and Europe;

Whereas, during their first tour, the Jubilee Singers raised enough money to preserve their university and pay for the construction of Jubilee Hall, the South's first permanent structure built for the education of black students;

Whereas the Jubilee Singers introduced the world to the spiritual as a musical genre; and

Whereas the Fisk Jubilee Singers continue to tour and perform to this day, and have received countless awards and honors along the way: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) a commemorative postage stamp should be
4 issued by the United States Postal Service honoring
5 the Fisk Jubilee Singers; and

6 (2) the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee
7 should recommend to the Postmaster General that
8 such a postage stamp be issued.

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