

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 381

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should issue a postage stamp commemorating the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 30, 2003

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 the United States Postal Service should issue a postage stamp commemorating the Fisk Jubilee Singers.

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, the Fisk Jubilee Singers, with the goal of raising money to finance the institution;

Whereas in that same year, the Fisk Jubilee Singers took all the funds in 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 and have received countless awards and honors:
Now, therefore, be it

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

3 (1) the United States Postal Service should
4 issue a postage stamp commemorating the Fisk Ju-
5 bilee Singers; and

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

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