

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 216

Expressing support for designation of March 2019 as Music in Our Schools Month.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 11, 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ (for herself and Ms. NORTON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

---

# RESOLUTION

Expressing support for designation of March 2019 as Music in Our Schools Month.

Whereas music has been present in every known human culture throughout history and modern times;

Whereas music is one of the most important manifestations of our cultural heritage, as it embodies our national identity and illustrates our shared history;

Whereas music education helps communities share ideas and values among cultures and generations, promoting a more cooperative and inclusive citizenry;

Whereas singing has existed in American classrooms since before the signing of the Declaration of Independence;

Whereas, in 1838, music as its own curriculum was first adopted by public authority in the public schools of Boston, Massachusetts;

Whereas the development of a musical people has been and remains dependent on a public commitment to the teaching of music in all schools;

Whereas State legislatures and educational agencies have supported music as part of the regular school curriculum;

Whereas the Every Student Succeeds Act identified music as part of a well-rounded education;

Whereas music is a means for exploring the emotional and aesthetic dimensions of the human experience;

Whereas music holds intrinsic value as an art form, providing opportunity for self-expression, fellowship, and spiritual fulfillment;

Whereas research has documented that participation in school music promotes student engagement, leading to improved social and academic outcomes, particularly for at-risk students;

Whereas research has documented that participation in school music also promotes cognitive, social, and emotional development, exercising skills valuable to the workforce such as motivation, attentiveness, self-discipline, teamwork, persistence, empathy, respect, and leadership; and

Whereas racial minorities and students who are of low-socio-economic backgrounds are less likely to have access to a high-quality music education: Now, therefore, be it

- 1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives supports
- 2 the designation of Music in Our Schools Month and recog-
- 3 nizes—

- 1           (1) the fundamental importance of music to the  
2       Nation's culture;
- 3           (2) the long history of music as an integral part  
4       of the Nation's schools;
- 5           (3) the disparate access to high-quality music  
6       education that exists across the country; and
- 7           (4) the need to do more to support the teaching  
8       and learning of music in public schools.

