

widely known Black vocalists, and other early Black singing pioneers, including Nellie Mitchell Brown, Marie Selika Williams, Rachel Walker Turner, Marian Anderson, and Flora Batson Bergen, paved the way for the female Black 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 Black people and replaced the term “race music”;

Whereas lyrical themes in rhythm and blues often encapsulate the Black 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 Black community in the late 1950s and early 1960s, combines elements of Black 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 Go-Go, developed by Black musicians in the mid-1960s, combines funk, soul, and Latin music, was popularized by artists such as Chuck Brown and Rare Essence, and is the “official music of Washington, DC”;

Whereas the National Museum of African American Music in Nashville, Tennessee, serves as the official home of Black Music Month and is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the central role of Black music in American culture;

Whereas Harry Belafonte, a singer, actor, and activist, and a supporter and confidant of Martin Luther King, Jr., throughout the civil rights movement, influenced by his Caribbean roots, popularized Calypso music in the United States;

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 Black 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 and elements of the Black 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 Black youth growing up in underresourced neighborhoods;

Whereas Dayton, Ohio, known as the “Land of Funk”, helped give rise to the genre of funk as a mixture of soul, jazz, and rhythm and blues and popularized bands such as the Ohio Players, Heatwave, Roger Zapp, and Lakeside;

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, a Minnesota native, was a one-of-a-kind artist who

made “Purple Rain” a household name, First Avenue a landmark, and brought international fame to Minnesota’s music scene;

Whereas the incredible Billie Holiday created a cultural reset by recording “Strange Fruit”, originally a poem that depicted lynching in the southern United States, which became the first protest song of the civil rights era;

Whereas the talented jazz artist Duke Ellington pushed boundaries with his hits “It Don’t Mean a Thing if It Ain’t Got That Swing” and “Sophisticated Lady” and received 13 Grammy Awards and the Presidential Gold Medal;

Whereas Sister Rosetta Tharpe, known as the “Godmother of Rock ‘n’ Roll”, combined her distinctive guitar style with melodic blues and traditional gospel music that influenced the likes of Aretha Franklin and Chuck Berry;

Whereas Tina Turner, known as the “Queen of Rock ‘n’ Roll”, stunned audiences with her powerful vocals, was the first woman or Black musician to be featured on the cover of Rolling Stone, and received 12 Grammy Awards during her lifetime;

Whereas trailblazer Florence Price was the first noted Black female composer to gain national status and the first Black woman to have her composed work performed by a major national symphony orchestra;

Whereas the classical singer Marian Anderson broke down racial barriers by performing at the Lincoln Memorial in 1939 after being denied the opportunity to sing in front of an integrated audience at the Daughters of the American Revolution Constitution Hall in Washington, DC;

Whereas country music singer Charley Pride was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in 2000 and has had more than 40 hits reach number 1 on the country charts;

Whereas Nina Simone, one of the most prominent and extraordinary soul singers, has music spanning more than 4 decades that impacted generations with detailed storytelling;

Whereas musician Bobby McFerrin brought joy to audiences everywhere with his smash hit “Don’t Worry Be Happy”;

Whereas famous saxophone player John Coltrane made his impact on genres like bebop, jazz, and rhythm and blues through his work such as “A Love Supreme”;

Whereas David Jolicoeur, also known as Trugoy the Dove, was a founding member of hip-hop groups De La Soul and Native Tongues and used his passion for rap music to spread positive messages within his community;

Whereas musical force Marvin Gaye used his versatility as an artist to produce hits like “I Heard It Through the Grapevine” and “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough”;

Whereas Sylvia Robinson, a New Jersey native, was an American singer, record producer, and founder of Sugar Hill Records and is widely credited with launching the hip-hop genre internationally;

Whereas New Jersey resident Q-Tip, also known as Kamaal Fareed, along with his fellow members of A Tribe Called Quest—Phife Dawg, Jarobi White, and Ali Shaheed Muhammad—helped define uplifting and conscious hip-hop;

Whereas Camden, New Jersey native Leon Huff and his longtime partner Kenny Gamble are Grammy-winning songwriters and producers, who founded Philadelphia International Records and produced over 170 gold and platinum records for artists such as Billy Paul, Lou Rawls, The O’Jays, Patti LaBelle, and Phyllis Hyman;

Whereas Black Music Month was established 46 years ago by songwriter and producer Kenny Gamble, broadcaster Dyana Williams, and radio executive Ed Wright

under the auspices of the Black Music Association;

Whereas a recent study by the National Arts Education Data Project found that 49 percent of all students attending schools with a predominately African-American student population do not participate in school music programs;

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

Whereas Black students often receive a music education that does not reflect their own culture;

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 study found that—

(1) nearly ⅔ of music ensemble students were White and middle class, and only 15 percent of those students were Black; and

(2) only 7 percent of music teacher license candidates were Black; 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 Black people to the musical heritage of the United States;

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

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

(D) the need for Black students to have greater access to, and participation in, culturally relevant music programs in schools across the United States; and

(E) Black History Month and Black Music Month as an important time—

(i) to celebrate the impact of the Black 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 2025 as “Black Music Month”.

# SENATE RESOLUTION 274—COM-MENDING FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN PROTECTING AMERICANS BY COMBATING DRUG TRAFFICKING AND AGROTERORISM AND FOR THEIR RECENT ACTIONS IN KANSAS AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Mr. MARSHALL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 274

Whereas the illegal trafficking of drugs poses a severe threat to the health, safety, and well-being of communities across the United States, and contributes to addiction, violence, and economic disruption;

Whereas drug trafficking has exacted a devastating human toll, resulting in the annual loss of tens of thousands of American lives to drug overdoses;

Whereas an American dies from a drug overdose every 7 minutes, on average;

Whereas, Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies have demonstrated unwavering commitment, bravery, and dedication in their efforts to disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking networks;

Whereas Federal, State, and local law enforcement also play a vital role in protecting our Nation's food security by preventing the intentional introduction of harmful substances or agents;

Whereas in May 2025, a joint team consisting of agents from U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Homeland Security Investigations, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, and the Emporia Police Department arrested 6 individuals who were transporting more than 85 gallons of liquid methamphetamine from Mexico to Emporia, Kansas;

Whereas in June 2025, the Federal Bureau of Investigation arrested 2 nationals of the People's Republic of China, with alleged ties to the Chinese Communist Party and were caught smuggling the fungal plant pathogen *Fusarium graminearum* (also known as "Gibberella zeae") into the United States;

Whereas this fungus causes "fusarium head blight", which devastates wheat, barley, maize, and rice crops, and which has caused billions of dollars in economic losses globally;

Whereas had this fungus been released into the Kansas wheat crop, it would have devastated America's largest wheat producer, accounting for between 20 and 25 percent of the Nation's annual wheat production;

Whereas in June 2025, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Drug Enforcement Administration executed a record drug bust, seizing illicit substances in quantities that could have killed nearly 50,000,000 people; and

Whereas these Federal agents confiscated more than 93 kilograms of fentanyl, 97 kilograms of methamphetamine, nearly 18 kilograms of heroin, and about 10 kilograms of cocaine, the combined value of which exceeds \$9,000,000: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies and personnel for their tireless efforts in combating drug trafficking and agroterrorism;

(2) expresses gratitude for their bravery and dedication to protecting American communities, public health, and our Nation's food supply; and

(3) encourages them to continue their efforts to keep our communities and food supply safe and secure.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 275—HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HEINOUS ATTACK AT THE PULSE NIGHTCLUB ON JUNE 12, 2016

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself and Mrs. MOODY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 275

Whereas, on June 12, 2016, a gunman inspired by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria targeted the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, where he killed 49 innocent victims and wounded dozens more in a despicable attack;

Whereas the attack at the Pulse nightclub was an attack on the LGBTQ community, the Hispanic community, the City of Orlando, the State of Florida, and the United States;

Whereas the Orlando community continues to mourn the tragic loss of life but has dem-

onstrated remarkable strength, unity, and resilience in the aftermath of the horrendous event;

Whereas June 12 is designated as "Pulse Remembrance Day" in the State of Florida to honor the victims and survivors of the senseless attack;

Whereas the people of the United States continue to pray for those affected by the tragedy; and

Whereas June 12, 2025, marks 9 years since the lives of the 49 innocent victims were tragically cut short by this senseless act of terrorism: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commemorates the 49 innocent victims killed in the attack at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, on June 12, 2016, and offers heartfelt condolences to the families, loved ones, and friends of the victims;

(2) honors the dozens of survivors of the attack and pledges continued resolve to stand against terrorism and hate; and

(3) expresses gratitude to the brave law enforcement and emergency medical personnel who responded to the attack.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 276—DESIGNATING JUNE 12, 2025, AS "WOMEN VETERANS APPRECIATION DAY"

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. ROSEN, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 276

Whereas, throughout every period of the history of the United States, women have proudly served the United States to secure and preserve freedom and liberty for—

(1) the people of the United States; and

(2) the allies of the United States;

Whereas women have formally been a part of the Armed Forces since the establishment of the Army Nurse Corps in 1901 but have informally served since the inception of the United States military;

Whereas 2023 marked the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948 (62 Stat. 356, chapter 449), legally allowing women to serve in all 4 branches of the military;

Whereas more than 3,000,000 women have served the United States honorably and with valor on land, on sea, in the air, and in space, including—

(1) as "Molly Pitchers" during the American Revolution, providing support to the Continental Army and taking their place on the artillery gun lines as soldiers fell;

(2) by passing as men to serve as soldiers during the Revolutionary War, the Early Republic, and the Civil War;

(3) as doctors, nurses, ambulance drivers, and Signal Corps telephone operator "Hello Girls" during World War I;

(4) during World War II—

(A) as members of the Women's Army Corps (commonly known as "WACs");

(B) as Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (commonly known as "WAVES");

(C) as members of the Coast Guard Women's Reserve (commonly known as "SPARS");

(D) as Women Airforce Service Pilots (commonly known as "WASPs"); and

(E) as nurses;

(5) as permanent members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force, serving as nurses, physicians, physical therapists, air traffic controllers, intelligence special-

ists, communications specialists, logisticians, and clerks during the Korean War and Vietnam War; and

(6) as fixed and rotary wing combat pilots, surface warfare sailors, submariners, artilleryists, air defenders, engineers, military police, intelligence specialists, civil affairs specialists, logisticians, and, most recently, in all combat roles in the Persian Gulf, Iraq, and Afghanistan;

Whereas, as of 2023, women constitute approximately 18 percent of Armed Forces personnel on active duty, including—

(1) 22 percent of active duty personnel in the Air Force;

(2) 21 percent of active duty personnel in the Navy;

(3) 16 percent of active duty personnel in the Army;

(4) 10 percent of active duty personnel in the Marine Corps;

(5) 16 percent of active duty personnel in the Coast Guard; and

(6) 19 percent of active duty personnel in the Space Force;

Whereas, as of 2023, women constitute 22 percent of personnel in the National Guard and Reserves;

Whereas women were critical to COVID-19 relief, including as part of the personnel in the National Guard and Reserves activated to support COVID-19 response efforts;

Whereas women have been critical to responding to the unjustified invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation, including as members of the National Guard and as active duty personnel in the Armed Forces who have been deployed to contribute to foreign assistance efforts;

Whereas 13 members of the Armed Forces, including 2 women, were killed during Operation Allies Refuge, in which more than 120,000 people were evacuated in the largest civilian airlift in the history of the United States;

Whereas, in 2024—

(1) the population of women veterans was approximately 2,100,000, which represents a significant increase from 1,100,000 women veterans in 1980; and

(2) women veterans constituted approximately 12 percent of the total veteran population;

Whereas women are the fastest growing group in the veteran population;

Whereas an estimated 1 in 3 women veterans enrolled in the healthcare system of the Department of Veterans Affairs report having experienced military sexual trauma during their military service;

Whereas the people of the United States are proud of and appreciate the service of all women veterans, who have demonstrated great skill, sacrifice, and commitment to defending the principles upon which the United States was founded and which the United States continues to uphold;

Whereas women veterans have unique stories and should be encouraged to share their recollections through the Veterans History Project, a part of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, which has worked since 2000 to collect and share the personal accounts of wartime veterans in the United States; and

Whereas, by designating June 12, 2025, as "Women Veterans Appreciation Day", the Senate can—

(1) highlight the growing presence of women in the Armed Forces and the National Guard; and

(2) pay respect to women veterans for their patriotic military service: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates June 12, 2025, as "Women Veterans Appreciation Day" to recognize the service and sacrifices of women veterans who have served valiantly on behalf of the United States.