

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 210

BY SENATOR BARROW

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. Recognizes the month of June as "African-American Music Appreciation Month" in Louisiana.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize the month of June as "African-American Music Appreciation Month" in
3 Louisiana and to honor the invaluable contributions of African-American artists from
4 Louisiana to the rich cultural heritage and global legacy of American music.

5 WHEREAS, in 1979, President Jimmy Carter designated June as "Black Music
6 Month", a national celebration of African-American musical achievement; and in 2009,
7 President Barack Obama re-established the observance under the name "African-American
8 Music Appreciation Month" to more accurately reflect the impact and origins of this music;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, African-American music has served as a foundation of American
11 culture and identity, shaping the nation's artistic, social, and political landscape through
12 genres such as gospel, blues, jazz, zydeco, funk, R&B, and Hip-Hop; and

13 WHEREAS, Louisiana has long been a cradle of musical innovation, producing a
14 "gumbo" of sonic traditions that include jazz in New Orleans, zydeco and Creole rhythms
15 in the Acadiana region, gospel choirs, blues musicians, and more; and

16 WHEREAS, Louisiana has also left a transformative imprint on Hip-Hop music,
17 rising from humble beginnings to become one of the most influential centers of rap in the
18 world; and

1 WHEREAS, though Hip-Hop's roots trace back to a 1973 block party in the Bronx
2 with DJ Kool Herc and MC Coke La Rock, Louisiana would soon claim its own space in the
3 movement with pioneering figures like Gregory D and Mannie Fresh, who became the first
4 Louisiana rap act to be officially signed; and

5 WHEREAS, early artists such as T.T. Tucker and DJ Jimi helped lay the foundation
6 for bounce music, a uniquely New Orleans subgenre that energized communities and
7 introduced a distinct rhythm built upon the iconic "Triggerman" beat; and

8 WHEREAS, Baton Rouge artist MC Nero garnered early attention in 1991 with
9 "Gotta Lotta Respect", and shortly after, rapper Kyper placed Louisiana firmly on the
10 national radar with his platinum-certified hit "Tic-Tac-Toe"; and

11 WHEREAS, the mid-1990s witnessed the emergence of three powerhouse labels that
12 launched some of the most successful artists in Hip-Hop history: No Limit Records, founded
13 by Master P in New Orleans; Cash Money Records, founded by Bryan "Baby" Williams and
14 Ronald "Slim" Williams; and Concentration Camp, established in Baton Rouge by C-Loc;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, No Limit Records introduced the world to artists such as Mia X, Silkk
17 the Shocker, and Mystikal, and broke new ground in music business practices by brokering
18 an 80/20 profit-sharing distribution deal, preserving creative and financial independence; and

19 WHEREAS, Cash Money Records redefined commercial success in Hip-Hop with
20 artists such as Juvenile, BG, Turk, and Lil Wayne - whom Billboard ranked as the 7th
21 greatest rapper of all time - and later served as the launching pad for global icons Drake and
22 Nicki Minaj; and

23 WHEREAS, Baton Rouge's Concentration Camp served as a critical incubator for
24 talent such as Lil Boosie (Boosie Badazz), Young Bleed, and Max Minelli, establishing a
25 legacy that endures through artists like Kevin Gates and NBA YoungBoy, the latter of whom
26 has repeatedly topped national charts; and

27 WHEREAS, Louisiana is also home to lyrically gifted and culturally significant
28 artists including Jay Electronica, Curren\$y, Mac Phipps, and others whose work has pushed
29 the boundaries of the genre; and

30 WHEREAS, a multitude of independent emcees, DJs, and producers across Louisiana

1 continue to enrich the Hip-Hop landscape, often without mainstream recognition, by
2 connecting communities, telling powerful stories, and preserving the regional sound; and

3 WHEREAS, influential radio DJs and hosts such as Jewel "Juiceman" Jackson,
4 Ernest "The Nightrider" Smith, and Joe Marquis Anthony have helped amplify Louisiana's
5 musical voices to audiences across the state and beyond; and

6 WHEREAS, Louisiana's profound contributions to African-American music,
7 especially Hip-Hop, have created a legacy that honors the past, inspires the present, and
8 shapes the future of global culture.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
10 does hereby recognize the month of June as "African-American Music Appreciation Month"
11 in Louisiana; does hereby commend the artists who share their musical gifts with the world;
12 and does hereby express enduring appreciation for the tremendous honor and pride they
13 bring to Louisiana citizens.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.
The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof
or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SR 210 Original

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