
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 320 Session of
2022

INTRODUCED BY HUGHES, JUNE 23, 2022

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, JUNE 23, 2022

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of June 2022 as "Black Music Appreciation
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, In 1979, President Jimmy Carter first designated
4 June as "National Black Music Month" in celebration of the
5 African-American musical influences that comprise an essential
6 part of our nation's treasured cultural heritage; and

7 WHEREAS, In 2009, President Barack Obama renamed the month as
8 "African-American Music Appreciation Month"; and

9 WHEREAS, On May 31, 2022, President Joe Biden issued a
10 proclamation designating June 2022 as "Black Music Appreciation
11 Month" and called on public officials, educators and all the
12 people of the United States to observe the month in honor and
13 appreciation of Black musicians and Black music; and

14 WHEREAS, Music has the power to lift our spirits, comfort our
15 souls and inspire our hearts; and

16 WHEREAS, Music gives a voice to the human spirit, creating a
17 common language that unites people and breaks down barriers; and

18 WHEREAS, Black music has had a profound and powerful impact

1 in shaping America's musical score, being woven into the
2 tapestry of our nation, enriching our lives and pushing the
3 boundaries of creativity; and

4 WHEREAS, Black music has fueled a myriad of genres, including
5 rhythm and blues, jazz, gospel, country, rap and more, spanning
6 decades and geography; and

7 WHEREAS, Black music has conveyed the hopes and struggles of
8 a resilient people through spirituals mourning the original sin
9 of slavery and later heralding freedom from bondage, jazz
10 conveying hard truths, the sounds of Motown influencing the
11 Civil Rights Movement and hip-hop and rhythm and blues reminding
12 us of the work that still lies ahead; and

13 WHEREAS, The music created by Black artists continues to
14 influence musicians of all persuasions, entertain people of all
15 backgrounds and shape the story of our nation; and

16 WHEREAS, During "Black Music Appreciation Month," we honor
17 and pay homage to Black musicians, singers and contributors to
18 the music industry, past and present, whose innovative talents
19 and artistic expression unite us, build community, generate
20 empathy and foster a shared identity; and

21 WHEREAS, We celebrate Black artists who have used their songs
22 to stand up to injustice, fight for equality and reflect a
23 mirror on society, reminding us all of our enduring obligation
24 to deliver the promise of America for all Americans; and

25 WHEREAS, We celebrate the extraordinary legacy of Black music
26 on American culture and recognize the indelible impact it
27 continues to have on the world; therefore be it

28 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of June 2022 as
29 "Black Music Appreciation Month" in Pennsylvania.