



2025 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 75

July 9, 2025 - Introduced by Senators L. JOHNSON, DRAKE, HESSELBEIN, RATCLIFF, WIRCH and SPREITZER, cosponsored by Representatives STUBBS, ARMSTRONG, HAYWOOD, SINICKI, RIVERA-WAGNER, MIRESE, ROE, SUBECK, TAYLOR, STROUD, BROWN, MADISON, JOERS, GOODWIN, BARE, MOORE OMOKUNDE, ARNEY, CLANCY, PHELPS, UDELL and VINING. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

1 **Relating to:** recognizing June 2025 as Black Music Month in the state of
2 Wisconsin.

3 Whereas, President Jimmy Carter first recognized Black Music Month in
4 June 1979 at the urging of Kenny Gamble, Ed Wright, and Dyana Williams; and

5 Whereas, President Bill Clinton formally declared June as Black Music Month
6 in 2000; and

7 Whereas, Black singers, songwriters, musicians, sound engineers, composers,
8 record producers, disc jockeys, promoters, industry executives, and music educators
9 have shaped American music and transmitted it across the globe; and

10 Whereas, the experiences of Black Americans have driven musical genres like
11 jazz, gospel, rock and roll, rhythm and blues, soul, hip-hop, and rap; and

12 Whereas, the contributions of Black artists—including Lead Belly, Mahalia
13 Jackson, Big Mama Thornton, Arthur “Big Boy” Crudup, Fats Domino, Little
14 Richard, Elmore James, Big Bill Broonzy, Robert Johnson, B.B. King, Slim Harpo,

Sister Rosetta Tharpe, Rev. Herbert Brewster, Roy Hamilton, Muddy Waters, Buddy Guy, Howlin' Wolf, Chuck Berry, Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane, Smokey Robinson, the Jackson 5, the Supremes, the Temptations, the Four Tops, Jr. Walker & the All Stars, Mary Wells, Stevie Wonder, the Marvelettes, Martha Reeves & the Vandellas, Marvin Gaye, Quincy Jones, Nat King Cole, Jimi Hendrix, Prince, and Beyoncé—have established an indelible legacy in this country; and

Whereas, Black music has influenced American literature, dance, fashion, theater, film, and visual arts; and

Whereas, the state of Wisconsin is home to many Black musicians who have gone on to make substantial contributions to the music industry on the world stage, including Baby Drew, Clyde Stubblefield, Durrell “Tank” Babbs, Ronda Felton, Carl Allen, Dr. Wallace McClain Cheatham, Leotha Stanley, and Frances Russ; and

Whereas, Black music supports various industries and enhances the domestic economy; and

Whereas, Black music is a source of power, pride, inspiration, and unity in communities of all races and backgrounds; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That the members of the Wisconsin Legislature recognize June 2025 as Black Music Month in the state of Wisconsin.

(END)