



HR0377

LRB103 33731 LAW 63545 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to recognize the music genre of hip-hop for its cultural and social impact in commemoration of its 50th anniversary on August 11, 2023; and

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WHEREAS, Hip-Hop is a political and musical movement with a distinct culture, with its four core facets being DJing, MCing, otherwise known as rapping, break dancing, and street art or graffiti; the genre's rise can be attributed to Black artists who persisted and continue to push barriers and stand up for their right to be heard; and

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WHEREAS, Hip-hop's influence has reverberated across countless industries, including music, fashion, and sports, and has spread from New York to every U.S. state and around the world; the genre has also spawned the subgenres of gangster, conscious, rap rock, and drill, to name a few; and

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WHEREAS, Hip-Hop was created through the house party scene thanks to the efforts of such disc jockeys as Frankie Knuckles, Farley Jackmaster Funk, Steve "Silk" Hurley, Jesse Saunders, Ron Hardy, and many more creating house music, the predecessor to modern electronic music, around the same time as hip-hop's rise during the 80s; and

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1 WHEREAS, Hip-Hop's evolution continued into the 90s with
2 legendary artists 2Pac, Biggie, Jay-Z, Nas, Eminem, Snoop
3 Dogg, and others; during this era, the genre's status was
4 constantly challenged and upheld by the courts, which affirmed
5 an artist's right to free speech; and

6 WHEREAS, Hip-Hop reached meteoric heights in the 2000s and
7 beyond; through the work of such artists as 50 Cent, Drake, Lil
8 Wayne, Kendrick Lamar, and J. Cole, the genre's place as the
9 dominant popular music genre of the United States was firmly
10 cemented; according to global marketing research firm Nielsen,
11 the genre, listed as hip-hop/modern R&B, finally overtook rock
12 music as the highest selling music genre in the United States
13 in 2017; and

14 WHEREAS, Hip-hop artists of Illinois have made significant
15 contributions to the development of hip-hop, and they include
16 Kanye West, Twista, Common, Chief Keef, and Chance the Rapper;
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18 WHEREAS, Kanye West and Common, two of hip-hop's most
19 popular artists, were both born and raised in the Southeast
20 Side of Chicago, with the former hailing from the South Shore
21 neighborhood and the latter originating from the Calumet
22 Heights neighborhood; and

1 WHEREAS, Kanye West has flourished in a career spanning
2 more than 20 years, influencing generations of artists in all
3 genres; his talent and impact have been solidified by his 24
4 Grammy wins, his 84 RIAA-certified platinum digital singles,
5 the most of any artist, and more; and

6 WHEREAS, Common has succeeded in a career lasting more
7 than 30 years, working to make an impact in hip-hop, film,
8 activism, and more; his talent and impact have been
9 demonstrated by his three Grammy wins, his multiple RIAA
10 certifications, and through his roles in film, television,
11 gaming, and activism; and

12 WHEREAS, Hip-Hop continues to have an impact on our
13 society through its influence on music, culture, fashion, and
14 beyond; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
16 HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we recognize the music genre of hip-hop in commemoration of
18 its 50th anniversary and its continued cultural and social
19 impact on the City of Chicago and the State of Illinois; and be
20 it further

21 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be

1 presented to the Governor, the Lt. Governor, the Speaker of
2 the House, the Mayor of the City of Chicago, Kanye West, and
3 Common.