

Calendar No. 714

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 2929

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, as the “Nat King Cole Post Office”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 12, 2002

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Governmental Affairs

OCTOBER 15, 2002

Reported by Mr. LIEBERMAN, without amendment

A BILL

To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los Angeles, California, as the “Nat King Cole Post Office”.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) Nat King Cole—

1 (A) was born Nathaniel Adams Coles in
2 Montgomery, Alabama, during the difficult pe-
3 riod of segregation in the United States; and

4 (B) was raised in the ghettos of the south
5 side of Chicago, Illinois, where he endured the
6 harshness of poverty;

7 (2) Nat King Cole was often confronted with
8 racism during his career, including being attacked
9 by members of a white supremacist group while he
10 was on stage in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1956;

11 (3) Nat King Cole did not allow poverty or rac-
12 ism to prevent him from—

13 (A) sharing his music with people world-
14 wide; and

15 (B) leaving a lasting impression on Amer-
16 ican culture;

17 (4) Nat King Cole established himself as the
18 best selling African-American recording artist of his
19 generation;

20 (5) Nat King Cole and his family became the
21 first African-American family to integrate the com-
22 munity of Hancock Park in Los Angeles when, de-
23 spite threats and protests from local residents, they
24 purchased their English Tudor mansion in 1948;

25 (6) “The Nat King Cole Show”—

1 (A) was primarily broadcast from Bur-
2 bank, California;

3 (B) aired nationally for more than a year
4 beginning in 1956; and

5 (C) was the first television show to be
6 hosted by an African-American artist;

7 (7) Nat King Cole graced southern California
8 with his music during the formative years of his
9 music career and formed the successful “King Cole
10 Trio” in Los Angeles, California;

11 (8) Nat King Cole’s recording of “Route 66”
12 serenaded generations of eager California immi-
13 grants;

14 (9) Nat King Cole’s recorded rendition of “The
15 Christmas Song” symbolizes the family warmth of
16 the yuletide season;

17 (10) Nat King Cole’s disarming delivery teaches
18 people the meaning of “Unforgettable”;

19 (11) although Nat King Cole died from lung
20 cancer on February 15, 1965, the music and em-
21 bracing baritone voice of Nat King Cole are lasting
22 legacies that continue to be enjoyed by people world-
23 wide;

24 (12) Nat King Cole exemplifies the American
25 dream by having overcome societal and other bar-

1 riers to become one of the great American enter-
2 tainers; and

3 (13) members of the community surrounding
4 the Oakwood Station Post Office in Los Angeles,
5 California, have advocated for the renaming of the
6 post office in honor of Nat King Cole, a former resi-
7 dent of the area.

8 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF NAT KING COLE POST OFFICE.**

9 (a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States
10 Postal Service located at 265 South Western Avenue, Los
11 Angeles, California, and known as the Oakwood Station
12 Post Office, shall be known and designated as the “Nat
13 King Cole Post Office”.

14 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
15 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
16 States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall
17 be deemed to be a reference to the “Nat King Cole Post
18 Office”.

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