

107TH CONGRESS
2D 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

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—

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

1 (B) was raised in the ghettos of the south
2 side of Chicago, Illinois, where he endured the
3 harshness of poverty;

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

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

10 (A) sharing his music with people world-
11 wide; and

12 (B) leaving a lasting impression on Amer-
13 ican culture;

14 (4) Nat King Cole established himself as the
15 best selling African-American recording artist of his
16 generation;

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

22 (6) “The Nat King Cole Show”—

23 (A) was primarily broadcast from Bur-
24 bank, California;

1 (B) aired nationally for more than a year
2 beginning in 1956; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 (12) Nat King Cole exemplifies the American
23 dream by having overcome societal and other bar-
24 riers to become one of the great American enter-
25 tainers; and

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

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

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

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

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