

MAR 10 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE TO ISSUE A
COMMEMORATIVE POSTAGE STAMP IN HONOR OF ALFRED APAKA.

1 WHEREAS, Alfred Aholo Apaka, a man of Native Hawaiian
2 ancestry, was born on March 19, 1919, in Honolulu on the island
3 of Oahu in the Territory of Hawaii, United States of America;
4 and
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6 WHEREAS, Alfred Apaka's early musical training included
7 playing the ukulele and bass, and singing in the chorus at
8 Roosevelt High School and in choirs in the Mormon church; and
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10 WHEREAS, in 1938, he performed his first professional
11 engagement as a singer for Don McDiarmid, Sr., at the Royal
12 Hawaiian Hotel in Waikiki; and
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14 WHEREAS, in 1940, as part of Ray Kinney and His Hawaiians,
15 Alfred Apaka performed at the Lexington Hotel in New York City
16 and made "Hawaii's Charm", his first recording as a featured
17 vocalist; and
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19 WHEREAS, in 1952, Alfred Apaka performed on Bob Hope's and
20 Bing Crosby's respective radio shows and recorded with the
21 Andrews Sisters and Danny Stewart and His Islanders for Decca
22 Records; and
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24 WHEREAS, in 1954, after making other recordings and
25 performing in numerous locations on the United States mainland,
26 he returned to Hawaii to work at Kaiser's Hawaiian Village in
27 Waikiki (now the Hilton Hawaiian Village), where he entertained
28 tens of thousands of visitors; and
29

30 WHEREAS, on January 30, 1960, he died of a heart attack in
31 Honolulu at the height of his career, not long after a



1 television pilot in which he starred had been sold to a sponsor;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, Alfred Apaka was one of the greatest Hawaiian
5 vocalists of the twentieth century and remains a cultural icon
6 throughout the world more than fifty years after his death; and

7
8 WHEREAS, March 19, 2019, will be the centennial anniversary
9 of his birth; and

10
11 WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service, through its
12 commemorative postage stamps, honors extraordinary and enduring
13 contributions to American society, history, and culture; and

14
15 WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service welcomes
16 suggestions for stamp subjects that help portray the diversity
17 of the American experience for a worldwide audience; and

18
19 WHEREAS, the last Native Hawaiian to be honored with a
20 commemorative postage stamp from the United States Postal
21 Service was Olympic gold medalist Duke Kahanamoku, who was so
22 honored in 2002; and

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24 WHEREAS, the memorialization of the contributions of a
25 talented and beloved Native Hawaiian singer through a
26 commemorative postage stamp would be consistent with the United
27 States Postal Services' standards for commemorative postage
28 stamps; now, therefore,

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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the United States
33 Postal Service is requested to issue a commemorative stamp in
34 honor of Alfred Apaka on March 19, 2019; and

35
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Postal
37 Service is requested to first release the commemorative stamp in
38 Waikiki, the place where Alfred Apaka established himself as a
39 performer, and then to the rest of the nation; and

40



S.C.R. NO. 87

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of Hawaii are urged
 2 to support this effort to bring pride and recognition to both
 3 Alfred Apaka and the State of Hawaii; and
 4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Postmaster General
 7 of the United States; the Chair of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory
 8 Committee of the United States Postal Service; the Postmaster of
 9 Honolulu; Hawaii's congressional delegation; the Governor of
 10 Hawaii; and the Mayors of the several counties of the State of
 11 Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY:

Ed Davie

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