
HOUSE 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

18
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

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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
32 television pilot in which he starred had been sold to a sponsor;
33 and



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2 WHEREAS, Alfred Apaka was one of the greatest Hawaiian
3 vocalists of the twentieth century and remains a cultural icon
4 throughout the world more than fifty years after his death; and
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6 WHEREAS, March 19, 2019, will be the centennial anniversary
7 of his birth; and
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9 WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service, through its
10 commemorative postage stamps, honors extraordinary and enduring
11 contributions to American society, history, and culture; and
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13 WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service welcomes
14 suggestions for stamp subjects that help portray the diversity
15 of the American experience for a worldwide audience; and
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17 WHEREAS, the last Native Hawaiian to be honored with a
18 commemorative postage stamp from the United States Postal
19 Service was Olympic gold medalist Duke Kahanamoku, who was so
20 honored in 2002; and
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22 WHEREAS, the memorialization of the contributions of a
23 talented and beloved Native Hawaiian singer through a
24 commemorative postage stamp would be consistent with the United
25 States Postal Services' standards for commemorative postage
26 stamps; now, therefore,
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2017, that the United States Postal Service is requested to
31 issue a commemorative stamp in honor of Alfred Apaka on March
32 19, 2019; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the United States Postal
35 Service is requested to first release the commemorative stamp in
36 Waikiki, the place where Alfred Apaka established himself as a
37 performer, and then to the rest of the nation; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the people of Hawaii are urged
40 to support this effort to bring pride and recognition to both
41 Alfred Apaka and the State of Hawaii; and
42



H.R. NO. 36

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the Postmaster General of the
 3 United States; the Chair of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory
 4 Committee of the United States Postal Service; the Postmaster of
 5 Honolulu; Hawaii's congressional delegation; the Governor of
 6 Hawaii; and the Mayors of the several counties of the State of
 7 Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY:

Calvin H. King

R.H.

James W. King

J. R. King

MAR - 2 2017

