2021 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 71

July 26, 2021 – Introduced by Representatives L. MYERS, BOWEN, HAYWOOD, DRAKE, MOORE OMOKUNDE, BALDEH, STUBBS, ALLEN, BROSTOFF, BILLINGS, SNODGRASS, EMERSON, VRUWINK, S. RODRIGUEZ, NEUBAUER, HEBL, CONLEY, HONG, ANDRACA, HESSELBEIN, SINICKI, MILROY, SPREITZER, SUBECK, SHELTON, ARMSTRONG, SHANKLAND, BRANDTJEN, CONSIDINE, HINTZ and VINING, cosponsored by Senators L. TAYLOR, JOHNSON, CARPENTER, AGARD, WIRCH and LARSON. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: recognizing June 2021 as Black Music Month in the state of Wisconsin.

Whereas, President Jimmy Carter first recognized Black Music Month in June 1979 at the urging of Kenny Gamble, Ed Wright, and Dyana Williams; and

Whereas, President Bill Clinton formally declared June as Black Music Month in 2000; and

Whereas, Black singers, songwriters, musicians, sound engineers, composers, record producers, disc jockeys, promoters, industry executives, and music educators have shaped American music and transmitted it across the globe; and

Whereas, the experiences of Black Americans have driven musical genres like jazz, gospel, rock and roll, rhythm and blues, soul, hip hop, and rap; and

Whereas, the contributions of Black artists—from Lead Belly, Mahalia Jackson, and Nat King Cole to Jimi Hendrix, Prince, and Beyoncé—have established an indelible legacy in this country; and

Whereas, Black music has influenced American literature, dance, fashion, theater, film, and visual arts; and
Whereas, the state of Wisconsin is home to many Black musicians who have
gone on to make substantial contributions to the music industry on the world stage,
including Baby Drew, Clyde Stubblefield, Durrell “Tank” Babbs, Ronda Felton, Carl
Allen, Dr. Wallace McClain Cheatham, Leotha Stanley, and Frances Russ; and

Whereas, Black music supports various industries and enhances the domestic
economy; and

Whereas, Black music is a source of power, pride, inspiration, and unity in
communities of all races and backgrounds; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the members of the
Wisconsin Legislature recognize June 2021 as Black Music Month in the state of
Wisconsin.