

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

FILED SENATE  
Mar 25, 2025  
S.B. 512  
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS45259-LG-95

Short Title: Adopt Official Hip Hop Song. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Murdock, Smith, and Salvador (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ADOPT THE SONG "RAISE UP" AS THE OFFICIAL HIP HOP SONG OF THE  
3 STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

4 Whereas, in 2023, hip hop fans across North Carolina and the world celebrated the  
5 50th anniversary of hip hop music; and

6 Whereas, North Carolina's Historically Black Colleges and Universities have helped  
7 shape the rich and diverse sound of North Carolina's hip hop artists; and

8 Whereas, North Carolina is the home state of Petey Pablo, J. Cole, Rapsody, 9th  
9 Wonder, Phonte, Big Pooh, and many other hip hop icons; and

10 Whereas, Moses Barrett, III, henceforth referred to as Petey Pablo, was born and  
11 raised in Greenville, North Carolina; and

12 Whereas, Petey Pablo is a Grammy-nominated platinum rap artist that was inducted  
13 into the North Carolina Music Hall of Fame in 2024; and

14 Whereas, "Raise Up" was released in August 2001 as a tribute to the people of North  
15 Carolina and maintains its cultural significance as an anthem for the State; Now, therefore,  
16 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

17 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 145 of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new  
18 section to read:

19 "**§ 145-52. Official hip hop song.**

20 The censored version of the song "Raise Up" by North Carolina rapper Petey Pablo is adopted  
21 as the official hip hop song of the State of North Carolina."

22 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

