

HISTORY OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM:

The National Anthem – “The Star Spangled Banner” was written on September 14, 1814. It was originally called the “Defence of Fort McHenry”, written after Francis Scott Key watched the battle at Fort McHenry in Maryland during the War of 1812 with the British. President Woodrow Wilson had the song playing at all major events beginning in 1916. The song had been heard occasionally, but during game 1 of the World Series in 1916, the song was played during the 7th inning and because of the timing of events, the song became a staple to the country. The song was voted in as “The National Anthem” March 3, 1931 by Congress. The first 40 times Congress voted, they did not pass this song as the National Anthem, the 41st time the bill passed.



The National Anthem – The Star Spangled Banner

*“Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?”*