

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 211

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

COMMENDATIONS: Commends James Burton on his 2018 induction into the Louisiana Folklife Center Hall of Master Folk Artists

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend James Burton upon his 2018 induction into the Louisiana Folklife Center Hall  
3 of Master Folk Artists.

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Folklife Center is an agency of Northwestern State  
5 University of Louisiana and was established in 1976; and

6 WHEREAS, the mission of the Louisiana Folklife Center is to identify, document,  
7 and present Louisiana's rich history of folklore and folklife, and the center serves as an  
8 archival repository for many folklife materials; and

9 WHEREAS, the Hall of Master Folk Artists, which was started in 1981, currently has  
10 more than one hundred distinguished inducted honorees in celebration of Louisiana's vibrant  
11 and diverse folk culture; and

12 WHEREAS, born August 21, 1939, in Dubberly, Louisiana, James Burton's family  
13 moved to Shreveport, where he spent his formative years; at the age of fifteen, James  
14 recorded the famous hit, *Suzie Q*; his hit record resulted in airtime as a regular on the  
15 *Louisiana Hayride* radio show; he joined rockabilly and country singer Bob Luman's band;  
16 he also played with Ricky Nelson; and

17 WHEREAS, James Burton recorded with Dean Martin, Bobby Darin, and The Everly  
18 Brothers; his musical gifts allowed him to become a key figure in The Wrecking Crew, a  
19 group of session musicians; in 1969, James was asked by Elvis Presley to form a band; he  
20 did so and he became Elvis' band leader; and

1           WHEREAS, after Elvis Presley died in 1977, James Burton took his musical skills  
2 on the road and toured with Emmylou Harris, John Denver, and Jerry Lee Lewis; he also  
3 recorded with Kenny Rogers, Elvis Costello, and Johnny Cash; and

4           WHEREAS, James Burton has been inducted into the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame,  
5 the Musicians Hall of Fame, the Country Music Hall of Fame, and the Rockabilly Hall of  
6 Fame; famed Rolling Stones founder and guitarist Keith Richards was proud to conduct the  
7 ceremony of James Burton's induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; on February 8,  
8 2009, James won a Grammy award for the instrumental Brad Paisley song "Cluster Pluck";  
9 and

10           WHEREAS, the musical talents of James Burton have reaped benefits for people  
11 everywhere; the James Burton Foundation is dedicated to providing instruments to children  
12 in schools, hospitals, and civic programs and to veterans; having received his first guitar at  
13 a young age instilled in James a desire to help new generations of players; and

14           WHEREAS, James continues to tour and play his guitar around the world each year  
15 and is a fitting ambassador to represent the best of Louisiana; James Burton merits a special  
16 measure of commendation upon his 2018 induction into the Louisiana Folklife Center Hall  
17 of Master Folk Artists.

18           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend James Burton upon his 2018 induction into  
20 the Louisiana Folklife Center Hall of Master Folk Artists; does hereby congratulate him on  
21 his lifetime of musicianship and musical achievements; and does hereby extend to him every  
22 good wish for continued success, prosperity, and happiness in the future.

23           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
24 to James Burton.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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