

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 244

BY SENATOR CLAITOR

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Harry Connick Sr. for his outstanding accomplishments and singular contributions during thirty years of dedicated public service as district attorney and for his remarkable musical accomplishments.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Harry Connick Sr. for his outstanding accomplishments and singular
3 contributions during thirty years of dedicated public service as district attorney and
4 for his remarkable musical accomplishments.

5 WHEREAS, Joseph Harry Fowler Connick was born on March 27, 1926, in Mobile,
6 Alabama, the second of eight children of Jessie Catherine and James Paul Connick and when
7 he was two years old, the family moved to New Orleans; and

8 WHEREAS, Harry Connick Sr. served in the United States Navy in the Pacific
9 during World War II and, after the war, he returned to New Orleans and graduated from
10 Loyola University with a degree in business administration; and

11 WHEREAS, he later joined the United States Army Corps of Engineers as a civilian
12 employee where he met his future wife, Anita Livingston; they married in Tunisia and spent
13 time in Casablanca where Harry contracted tuberculosis; they were sent back to the United
14 States and eventually ended up in New Orleans; and

15 WHEREAS, When Harry and Anita Connick returned to New Orleans, they opened
16 a record store; ultimately, they owned two stores while simultaneously pursuing law degrees,
17 one working in the store while the other was at school, and their two children, Suzanna and
18 Harry Jr., were born; and

1 WHEREAS, Anita Connick died in 1981, and Harry Connick Sr. married Londa Jean
2 Matherne in 1995; and

3 WHEREAS, New Orleans music and culture is a large part of Harry Connick's life;
4 in 1993, he and his son, Harry Jr., were part of the group that founded the Krewe of Orpheus,
5 a superkrewe that included both men and women members who participate in annual Mardi
6 Gras parades; he has recorded two albums; in 1996, he released "All of Me" and two years
7 later, he released "New Orleans. . .My Home Town"; and he began working as a professional
8 singer in New Orleans clubs in 1990 at the age of sixty-five; and

9 WHEREAS, in 1973, Harry Connick Sr. defeated incumbent New Orleans District
10 Attorney Jim Garrison and served in that office until 2003, being re-elected in 1978, 1984,
11 1990, and 1996; he has been nationally recognized as an innovator in the criminal justice
12 system and has been credited with efforts to improve the plight of crime victims and
13 rehabilitate offenders; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1987, he waged an unsuccessful challenge to incumbent William J.
15 "Billy" Guste Jr. for the position of Louisiana Attorney General; and

16 WHEREAS, in 2003, he did not seek re-election and was inducted into the Louisiana
17 Political Museum and Hall of Fame in Winnfield; and

18 WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of the state's
19 communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure on the
20 dedication of public servants like Harry Connick Sr.; and

21 WHEREAS, Harry Connick Sr. merits a special measure of commendation for the
22 tremendous pride and honor that he brings to his family, friends, community, and state.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
24 does hereby commend Harry Connick Sr. for his outstanding accomplishments and singular
25 contributions during thirty years of dedicated public service as district attorney and for his
26 remarkable musical accomplishments, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for full
27 measures of continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Harry
29 Connick Sr.

