

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 99

BY REPRESENTATIVE BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To commend Rhonda McCullough for her hard work in raising awareness for sarcoidosis and to recognize April 21, 2013, as Rhonda McCullough Day in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of Rhonda McCullough, the wife of the late, famed comedian and actor Bernie Mac, whose death in 2008 was caused by complications from sarcoidosis; and

WHEREAS, sarcoidosis is an inflammatory disease that can affect almost any organ in the body and causes heightened immunity, which means that a person's immune system, which normally protects the body from infection and disease, overreacts, resulting in damage to the body's own tissues; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2013, Mrs. McCullough was the guest speaker at The Sarcoidosis Awareness Foundation of Louisiana's "Stepping Out Against Sarcoidosis"; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. McCullough founded the Bernie Mac Foundation in 2007, one year before her husband died, and under her highly skilled leadership, the organization has actively worked to increase awareness regarding sarcoidosis; and

WHEREAS, the Bernie Mac Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising funds for research and increasing awareness of sarcoidosis and serves patients as a community and meeting place to learn and discuss the effects of sarcoidosis; and

WHEREAS, on October 5, 2012, Bernie Mac's birthday, Mrs. McCullough's many years of hard work and persistence came to fruition with the opening of the Bernie Mac Sarcoidosis Translational Advanced Research Clinic at the University of Illinois Health and Science System; and

WHEREAS, the dedicated and tireless Rhonda McCullough merits a special measure of recognition and commendation upon visiting Louisiana to raise awareness for sarcoidosis

and for sharing her vision and mission with the Sarcoidosis Awareness Foundation of Louisiana on April 21, 2013.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize April 21, 2013, as Rhonda McCullough Day in Louisiana, does hereby commend Rhonda McCullough, wife of the late, famed comedian Bernie Mac, for her work in raising awareness for sarcoidosis, does hereby recognize and record for posterity her exceptional talents in philanthropy and vital contributions to sarcoidosis research, does hereby express enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor she brings to her community, her family, and her country, and does hereby extend to her best wishes for continued success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Rhonda McCullough, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Bernie Mac Foundation.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES