

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY SENATOR LAFLEUR

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for its many contributions to the state.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for its many contributions to the citizens
3 of the state of Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana is a federally recognized Indian
5 tribe with which the state of Louisiana has enjoyed a productive, amicable, and mutually
6 beneficial relationship; and

7 WHEREAS, since time immemorial, the ancestors of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of
8 Louisiana have been residents of the territory now known as the state of Louisiana; and

9 WHEREAS, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana currently resides on a reservation
10 located in Avoyelles Parish that was assigned to the tribe by the King of Spain in 1778; and

11 WHEREAS, members of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe fought alongside and were allies
12 with Don Bernardo de Galvez, Spanish governor of Louisiana, in a victory over British
13 military forces in the Battle of Baton Rouge on September 21, 1779, the only battle of the
14 American Revolution fought outside the territory of the original thirteen colonies; and

15 WHEREAS, the arts and crafts of members of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
16 have greatly enriched the artistic, cultural, and spiritual life of the state of Louisiana; and

17 WHEREAS, the state and the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana were co-parties in
18 the litigation known as the "Tunica Treasure Case", which resulted in the recovery of the

1 largest discovery of archaeological artifacts ever found in the United States, and ultimately
2 the items were deposited in a museum located on the Tunica-Biloxi Reservation to be
3 enjoyed by visitors from all over the world; and

4 WHEREAS, the economic development projects of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe have
5 helped rejuvenate central Louisiana, bringing jobs and prosperity to citizens and residents
6 of the state and resulting in marked economic progress throughout Louisiana; and

7 WHEREAS, Paragon Casino and Resort, operated by the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe, is a
8 vital business partner in the community of central Louisiana; and

9 WHEREAS, the political leadership shown by the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana
10 has consistently exhibited great honor, integrity, foresight, honesty, and solicitude for its
11 people, constituting a major force for progress in the state and providing a role model for the
12 members of the tribe and other Louisiana citizens; and

13 WHEREAS, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana has cooperated and worked with
14 the state of Louisiana, the parish of Avoyelles, and the municipalities surrounding its
15 reservation to the benefit of all and to the exclusion of wasteful conflict and strife; and

16 WHEREAS, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana merits a sincere and heartfelt
17 measure of commendation.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
19 does hereby commend the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for its many contributions to the
20 citizens of Louisiana and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride
21 and honor that the tribe brings to Avoyelles Parish and the state of Louisiana.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
23 Honorable Earl J. Barbry Sr., chairman of the Tribal Council of the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of
24 Louisiana.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Thomas L. Tyler.

DIGEST

LaFleur

SR No. 109

Commends the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana for its many contributions to the state.