

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 174

BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON

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A RESOLUTION

To commend Earl Barbry, Sr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Chairman, upon receipt of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated.

WHEREAS, United South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated (USET) recently created an honor, to be awarded annually, for lifetime achievement and service to the organization and Indian Country; and

WHEREAS, USET's goal is to recognize not only outstanding achievements within a tribe, but to honor leadership and advocacy to fellow Indian nations and to promote and protect sovereignty and lift the bitter yoke of poverty; and

WHEREAS, the inaugural USET Lifetime Achievement Award was recently given to Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana Chairman Earl Barbry, Sr; and

WHEREAS, as the first recipient, USET has also named the honor the Earl Barbry, Sr. Lifetime Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Barbry was raised on the Tunica-Biloxi Reservation in Marksville, where he was elected Tribal Chairman in 1978 and appointed Tribal Administrator that same year, capacities in which he continues to serve; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Barbry has overseen the construction of major housing developments, paved roads, a tribal center, a court complex, a welfare office, a hotel-casino recreation complex and a new multimillion dollar cultural and education center on the Reservation; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe received federal recognition in September of 1981 and repatriated artifacts looted from its eighteenth century cemetery near St. Francisville; and

1 WHEREAS, Chairman Barbry was named the recipient of the Avoyellean of the
2 Year Award in 1993 by the Avoyelles Journal, the highest award given in the parish; and

3 WHEREAS, in 1996, Chairman Barbry was named the Minority Businessman of the
4 Year by the Marksville Chamber of Commerce and subsequently received the 2005
5 Leadership Award of the National Indian Gaming Association; and

6 WHEREAS, in 2006, Chairman Barbry was named a Louisiana Legend by Louisiana
7 Public Broadcasting in recognition of his cultural, educational, and economic contributions
8 to the region and the state; he was the first American Indian to receive this honor; and

9 WHEREAS, in December 2011, Chairman Barbry was awarded an honorary
10 doctorate of humane letters by Northwestern State University; and

11 WHEREAS, Chairman Barbry serves in a leadership capacity in the Louisiana Inter-
12 Tribal Council, an organization that serves federal- and state-recognized Indian
13 communities; and

14 WHEREAS, Chairman Barbry is a nationally known American Indian leader, serving
15 on the board of the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc., representing federally
16 acknowledged tribes from Louisiana to Maine; and

17 WHEREAS, USET President commended Chairman Barbry for his "leadership",
18 "years of service", and "honor to his sacred duties".

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Earl Barbry, Sr., Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of
21 Louisiana chairman, upon his receipt of a Lifetime Achievement Award from the United
22 South and Eastern Tribes, Incorporated.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
24 to Earl Barbry, Sr.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES