SLS 14RS-1125 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 81

BY SENATOR GUILLORY

LEGIS POWERS/FUNCTIONS. Declares Sunset, Louisiana, the "Rubboard Capital of the World".

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To declare Sunset, Louisiana, the "Rubboard Capital of the World".
3	WHEREAS, as deeply rooted in the Cajun culture of Louisiana as crawfish étoufée,
4	the Zydeco rubboard, also known as a frottoir, is one of only four true musical instruments
5	that are original to the United States; and
6	WHEREAS, it is a mid-twentieth century invention designed specifically for Zydeco
7	music; and
8	WHEREAS, Willie Landry, a Louisiana native working as a master welder and metal
9	fabricator at the Texaco Refinery in Port Arthur, Texas, met two brothers from Louisiana,
10	Cleveland and Clifton Chenier in 1946; and
11	WHEREAS, Cleveland rhythmically strummed his old time, hand-held washboard
12	with bottle openers and played the rubboard to support Clifton's unique brand of emerging
13	Zydeco music; and
14	WHEREAS, the wood frame washboard was supported on Cleveland's neck by a
15	rope, and Clifton approached Willie Landry with a design for a musical rubboard, the
16	frottoir; and
17	WHEREAS, Willie crafted the vest frottoir from Clifton's design and the first frottoir
18	to be used strictly as a musical instrument was born from that historical, chance encounter

1	between a now famous Creole musician and a Cajun metal craftsman; and
2	WHEREAS, the rubboard is played as a stroked percussion instrument, often in a
3	band with a drummer; and
4	WHEREAS, in Zydeco bands, it is usually played with bottle openers or spoon
5	handles in each hand to make a louder sound and is stroked eight to sixteen times in a four
6	beat measure; and
7	WHEREAS, Willie Landry's son, Tee Don, mastered his father's techniques for
8	making the rubboard and carries on his father's legacy in his small shop, Key of Z
9	Rubboards, in Sunset, Louisiana; and
10	WHEREAS, each rubboard is handcrafted, registered, and numbered by Tee Don;
11	and
12	WHEREAS, the stainless steel musical rubboards of today are in demand around the
13	world and have been used by many leading Zydeco band members and celebrities, including
14	Billy F. Gibbons of ZZ Top, Buckwheat Zydeco, C. J. Chenier, Chubby Carrier, Zydeco Joe,
15	Cyril Neville of the Neville Brothers, David Peter of Louisiana LeRoux, Gatemouth Brown,
16	Mojo and the Bayou Gypsies, and Boo Zoo Chavis; and
17	WHEREAS, the Smithsonian Institution acquired two hand-made rubboards, which
18	are housed in the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.; and
19	WHEREAS, Tee Don Landry's heritage and strong commitment to preserving a
20	unique musical instrument has resulted in the production of high quality stainless steel
21	rubboards, and the continuation of a legacy passed down from father to son in Sunset,
22	Louisiana.
23	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
24	declare Sunset, Louisiana, as the "Rubboard Capital of the World".
	The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

DIGEST

Guillory SCR No. 81

Declares Sunset, Louisiana, the "Rubboard Capital of the World".