

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 189

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts upon its selection as the state's program partner for Turnaround Arts, an initiative of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts upon its selection as Louisiana's program partner for Turnaround Arts, an initiative of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities; and

WHEREAS, Turnaround Arts is a public-private partnership that uses the arts to help narrow the achievement gap, increase student engagement, and improve the culture and climate in the country's highest poverty schools; and

WHEREAS, led by the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, together with local partners, Turnaround Arts brings high quality arts education resources to low-performing elementary and middle schools and helps them use these resources to improve attendance, parent engagement, and student motivation; and

WHEREAS, in Louisiana, the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts, which advocates the importance of the arts in the development of youth, encourages the use of art within all curricula, and supports a variety of art educational programs, has been chosen as the local partner for Turnaround Arts; and

WHEREAS, through its Louisiana A+ Schools program, which has the mission of nurturing creativity in every learner, the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts will work with Homer A. Plessy Community School in New Orleans, St. Helena Arts and Technology Academy in Greensburg, and Homer Elementary School in Homer, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, resources for these schools, upon their addition to the Louisiana A+ Schools network, will include arts supplies, musical instruments, teacher training, and funding for partnerships with community arts education and cultural organizations; and

WHEREAS, New Orleans native Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews and Alfre Woodard, both Turnaround Artists, are "adopting" these schools and will work directly with students to support their arts education; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of George Rodrigue, an American master and one of Louisiana's finest sons, continues to inspire his fellow citizens, and the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts merits a special measure of commendation upon this memorable occasion.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts upon its selection as the state's program partner for Turnaround Arts, an initiative of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, does hereby recognize and record for posterity the foundation's positive impact on the lives of people of Louisiana, particularly the state's children, and does hereby extend sincere and heartfelt appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor that the late George Rodrigue, the Rodrigue family, and the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts bring to the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the executive director of the George Rodrigue Foundation of the Arts.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE