

2015 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 68

BY SENATORS PEACOCK, ADLEY, BUFFINGTON AND TARVER

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Louisiana State Exhibit Museum for its importance of being a depository of history, major tourist attraction, and educational center for children and adults.

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum for its importance as a depository of history, a major tourist attraction, and an educational center for children and adults.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum in Shreveport was completed in 1939, as one of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal projects by the Works Progress Administration (known as the WPA) and is an affiliate of the prestigious Smithsonian Institution; and

WHEREAS, the circular building, designed by Edward F. Neild, is an architectural jewel, layered inside and out with marble, granite, and polished aluminum and surrounds a landscaped courtyard that features hand-cut limestone; and

WHEREAS, Neild was a Shreveport native, member of the American Institute of Architects, who designed many public buildings in Louisiana, including the Capitol Annex building in Baton Rouge and buildings around the country, most notably, the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library in Missouri; and

WHEREAS, while the beauty of the building and grounds is reason enough to draw attention, the original artwork in the building is impressive; and

WHEREAS, the WPA celebrated the importance of public art, as well as well-designed public buildings, and the original artworks in the museum include a monumental

1 fresco on the front portico of the museum executed by famed muralist Conrad Albrizio,
2 which introduces the public to the beautifully rendered scale dioramas that portray snapshots
3 of Louisiana life in the 1930's; and

4 WHEREAS, a topographical map by sculptor Duncan Ferguson centers the Rotunda
5 and serves to draw visitors into the facility immediately upon entering; and

6 WHEREAS, also in the Rotunda, additional artwork illustrates the cultural geography
7 of Louisiana and numerous Louisiana artists contributed murals that portray Louisiana
8 landscapes and historical events; and

9 WHEREAS, the West Wing gallery displays rotating art exhibits and houses one of
10 the most extensive collections of Louisiana Native American artifacts, from prehistoric
11 periods to the present, and is home to the permanent exhibit of the Poverty Point Diorama,
12 illustrating the life of people indigenous to Louisiana; and

13 WHEREAS, the new Native American Gallery displays a Caddo culture log boat
14 excavated from the Red River that is believed to be one thousand years old and is an
15 impressive thirty feet in length; and

16 WHEREAS, during the month of April, 2015, the museum has hosted an exhibit
17 titled *Louisiana Icons: Symbols of our Heritage* which features a collection of oil, acrylic,
18 and watercolor works, also in the West Wing Gallery; and

19 WHEREAS, the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum welcomed sixty-five thousand
20 visitors in 2014, of which more than 16,000 were school students from the Shreveport and
21 Bossier City area; and

22 WHEREAS, currently in its seventy-sixth year of chronicling the archaeological,
23 historical, and natural history of Louisiana, the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum in
24 Shreveport is certainly an important treasure of Louisiana culture.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
26 does hereby commend the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum for its importance of being a
27 depository of history, a major tourist attraction, and an educational center for children and
28 adults.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
30 director of the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum, Wayne Waddell.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien.

	DIGEST	
SR 68 Original	2015 Regular Session	Peacock

Commends the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum for its importance of being a depository of history, a major tourist attraction, and an educational center for children and adults.