

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 171

BY SENATOR RISER

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Schepis Museum in Columbia, Louisiana, on its 100th celebration.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate the Schepis Museum in Columbia, Louisiana, on its 100th
3 celebration.

4 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the citizens and the Senate of the Legislature
5 of Louisiana have learned of the upcoming 100th celebration of the Schepis Building and
6 the Italian Heritage of Main Street, to be held on June 25, 2016, at 2:00 p.m. in Columbia,
7 Louisiana; and

8 WHEREAS, the Schepis Building in Columbia was originally built in 1916 by John
9 Schepis, an emigrant architect from Sicily; and

10 WHEREAS, he and his wife, Rosa Schepis, a grand opera singer and piano player,
11 settled in Columbia; and

12 WHEREAS, together they established a general mercantile store after building the
13 grand Schepis Building that we honor today; and

14 WHEREAS, the love John Schepis had for his community and his birthplace is
15 shown in his Renaissance-style Italian resemblance of the building; and

16 WHEREAS, two life size statues, George Washington holding a draped American
17 flag and Christopher Columbus holding a draped Italian flag, and an American eagle sit atop
18 the building as if to protect all that enter; and

1 WHEREAS, deserted in 1970, it was in extreme despair until 1985 when it was
2 placed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

3 WHEREAS, the Caldwell Parish Industrial Development Board received a grant in
4 1993 to restore the building to its present beauty and now it is truly a monument to
5 Columbia's history; and

6 WHEREAS, the Schepis Museum serves as the focal point of the Columbia Historic
7 District as established by the Historic Preservation Commission and is on the National
8 Historic Register; and

9 WHEREAS, the museum is used by Louisiana citizens to gain awareness of local
10 heritage and arts; and

11 WHEREAS, it provides citizens with exposure to all the different cultures, arts and
12 heritage of Louisiana through art, drama, music, and other means; and

13 WHEREAS, the museum is situated in Louisiana's cotton country where Columbia
14 was developed as a bustling riverboat town on the beautiful Ouachita River.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
16 does hereby commend and congratulate Schepis Museum in Columbia, Louisiana, on its
17 100th celebration.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
19 Schepis Museum.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tammy Crain Waldrop.

DIGEST

SR 171 Original 2016 Regular Session Riser

Commends the Schepis Museum in Columbia, Louisiana, on its 100th celebration.