

1 WHEREAS, in that same year, Blaine Kern Artists was founded; and

2 WHEREAS, after such great fortune with the Krewe of Alla, the captain of Rex hired
3 Mr. Kern to build its parade; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Kern traveled extensively to France, Spain, and Italy to study under
5 the world's leading float and costume makers and found tremendous inspiration in the
6 European style of float making; and

7 WHEREAS, upon his return to New Orleans, Mr. Kern's success as a legendary float
8 maker was cemented in history when he invented the double deck float, multiple unit floats,
9 and animated floats; and

10 WHEREAS, because of great public interest in float making, in 1984, Mr. Kern
11 created and opened Mardi Gras World as a "behind the scenes" tourist attraction that
12 annually draws more than one hundred fifty thousand visitors from around the world; and

13 WHEREAS, through his founding of Blaine Kern Artists and Mardi Gras World, Mr.
14 Kern has single-handedly created thousands of jobs in the city of New Orleans; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Kern left an indelible mark on the 1984 World's Fair in having
16 created widely recognized pieces including its entrance, the Wonderwall, and the gondola;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, from 1957 to 2007, Mr. Kern served as the captain of the Krewe of
19 Alla; and

20 WHEREAS, while Blaine Kern has been instrumental in the evolution of the New
21 Orleans' Mardi Gras and the development of over eighty krewes worldwide, opening Mardi
22 Gras to everyone is what Mr. Kern cherishes as his proudest achievement; and

23 WHEREAS, Mr. Kern has been recognized by the city of New Orleans, the state of
24 Louisiana, hundreds of charitable organizations, and Holy Cross University, which has
25 named its library in his honor; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Kern is deservedly known far and wide as "Mr. Mardi Gras"; and

27 WHEREAS, Mr. Kern is one of Louisiana's finest sons, and his ninetieth birthday is
28 a joyous event that deserves heartfelt congratulations.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
30 commend Blaine S. Kern upon the historic occasion of his ninetieth birthday, does hereby

1 record for posterity the extraordinary life he has lived in the nine decades since his birth,
2 does hereby express enduring gratitude for his outstanding accomplishments and the singular
3 contributions he has made to his family, friends, community, and state, and does hereby
4 extend to him every good wish for health and happiness in the years to come.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
6 to Blaine S. Kern.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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2017 Regular Session

Leopold

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