

1 WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana also acknowledges their contributions to the
2 economy and culture of this great state and this nation; and

3 WHEREAS, by acknowledging and protecting these sites, we are presenting a
4 meaningful way to better understand the reality of slavery, which will hopefully give us a
5 better understanding of the heritage and history of our friends, colleagues, and neighbors.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
7 create the Ancestors Burial Ground and Cemetery Preservation Commission to study and
8 develop measures to preserve and protect unmarked and historic burial grounds, graves, and
9 cemeteries of slaves in Louisiana.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be comprised of
11 representatives assigned from relevant and interested state agencies and other relevant and
12 interested parties, including but not limited to all of the following:

- 13 (1) The state archaeologist and director of the office of cultural development,
14 within the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, in the office of
15 the lieutenant governor.
- 16 (2) One member of the Louisiana House of Representatives appointed by the
17 speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 18 (3) One member of the Louisiana Senate appointed by the president of the
19 Senate.
- 20 (4) The chair of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus or his designee.
- 21 (5) The executive director of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association or his designee.
- 22 (6) The chair of the Louisiana Cemetery Board or his designee.
- 23 (7) The executive director of Save Our Cemeteries or his designee.
- 24 (8) The president of the Le Comité des Archives de la Louisiane, Inc. or his
25 designee.
- 26 (9) The president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored
27 People (NAACP) Baton Rouge branch or his designee.
- 28 (10) The chair of the Baton Rouge Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce or
29 his designee.
- 30 (11) One representative of the office of research and strategic initiatives of the
31 Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical College.

- 1 (12) The attorney general or his designee who is an attorney.
- 2 (13) The State Superintendent of Education or his disignee.
- 3 (14) The governor or his designee.
- 4 (15) One representative of the River Road African American Museum.
- 5 (16) Two representatives of the American Sugar Cane League.
- 6 (17) One representative of the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry.
- 7 (18) One representative of the Louisiana Chemical Association.
- 8 (19) One representative of the Ascension Parish Tourism Commission.
- 9 (20) One representative of the Iberville Tourist Commission.
- 10 (21) Two representatives of the River Parishes Tourist Commission representing
11 St. James Parish and St. John the Baptist Parish, respectively.
- 12 (22) One owner of a plantation in the river parishes appointed from a list of three
13 nominees submitted by the River Parishes Tourist Commission.
- 14 (23) Three representatives of the general public who have demonstrated a
15 commitment to the preservation and protection of historic cemeteries
16 appointed from a list of five nominees submitted by Save Our Cemeteries.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission is assigned to the office of the
18 lieutenant governor with staff support to be provided from existing personnel within the
19 office.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state archaeologist and director of the office
21 of cultural development shall serve as chair of the commission.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, at the first meeting of the commission, the
23 members may elect a vice chair and other officers as they may deem appropriate.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall be domiciled in Baton
25 Rouge but may hold public meetings elsewhere in the state.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall meet as necessary and
27 shall serve without compensation and at no expense to the state.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that member vacancies shall be filled in the same
29 manner as the original appointments.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the purpose of the commission shall be to
31 analyze, develop, or identify, nonexclusively, all of the following:

