

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 210

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Clementine Hunter posthumously upon her 2018 induction into the Louisiana Folklife Center Hall of Master Folk Artists

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Clementine Hunter posthumously upon her 2018 induction into the Louisiana
3 Folklife Center Hall of Master Folk Artists.

4 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Folklife Center is an agency of Northwestern State
5 University of Louisiana and was established in 1976; and

6 WHEREAS, the mission of the Louisiana Folklife Center is to identify, document,
7 and present Louisiana's rich history of folklore and folklife; and

8 WHEREAS, the Folklife Center serves as an archival repository for many folklife
9 materials; and

10 WHEREAS, Clementine Hunter was christened in March 1887 on a plantation in
11 Marco, Louisiana; her family moved to Melrose Plantation around the turn of the twentieth
12 century to work as sharecroppers; Ms. Hunter died January 1, 1988, having lived her entire
13 life completely within the environs of Melrose Plantation on Cane River near Natchitoches;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the art produced by Clementine Hunter was first documented in 1939;
16 she was a self-taught painter who was encouraged and inspired by Francois Mignon; from
17 paintings on pieces of paper, Clementine's works enlarged to the size of The African House
18 Murals, which dramatically portray the story of life at Melrose Plantation in the 1950s; and

19 WHEREAS, Clementine Hunter never learned to read or write, but her art has left
20 a legacy of the vagaries of Louisiana plantation life from the perspective of an insider; she
21 masterfully illustrated work in cotton fields and pecan orchards; Monday wash days with a

1 big open kettle of boiling water to clean the clothes; Saturday night honky-tonk experiences;
2 and the spiritual power of religion, all told with colorful paints and bold brush strokes on
3 canvas; and

4 WHEREAS, the paintings of Clementine Hunter will forever document life on a
5 southern plantation and give future generations a look back into breadth of hard work,
6 happiness, and community that existed in days past; she merits a special measure of
7 posthumous commendation upon her 2018 induction into the Louisiana Folklife Center Hall
8 of Master Folk Artists.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
10 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the life and work of Clementine Hunter,
11 renowned Louisiana painter, and does hereby acknowledge the revelatory impact her art has
12 made in depicting the early days of African Americans in the state.

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)]

HR 210 Original

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Cox

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