HLS 19RS-1834 ORIGINAL

2019 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 107

BY REPRESENTATIVE COX

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates October first annually as Dr. Clementine Hunter Day in Louisiana

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To designate October first annually as Clementine Hunter Day in Louisiana.
3	WHEREAS, Clementine Hunter was born in either late December 1886 or early
4	January 1887 to a Creole family at Hidden Hill Plantation, near Cloutierville; and
5	WHEREAS, Clementine was the eldest of seven children born to Mary Antoinette
6	Adams and Janvier "John" Reuben; and
7	WHEREAS, although there is some doubt about her actual date of birth, it is
8	generally believed that Clementine Hunter was at least one hundred years old when she died
9	on January 1, 1988; and
10	WHEREAS, Clementine worked as a farm laborer at Melrose Plantation during her
11	youth, where she picked and chopped cotton, harvested pecans, planted vegetables, and
12	occasionally attended school, although she never learned to read or write; and
13	WHEREAS, in 1924, she married Emmanuel Hunter, who was a woodchopper at
14	Melrose Plantation; she had seven children; and
15	WHEREAS, in her fifties, Clementine began painting with materials left behind by
16	a visitor; she became a self-taught artist who produced artwork depicting plantation life in
17	the early twentieth century; and
18	WHEREAS, although Clementine Hunter's works sold for as little as twenty five
19	cents, at present, her paintings and quilts are considered to be of priceless value; and
20	WHEREAS, over time, Clementine Hunter's paintings have gained international
21	acclaim, and her art has been celebrated in film documentaries, on stage, and in art galleries

1 across the United States and the world, including the National Gallery of Art and the 2 National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.; and 3 WHEREAS, she received an Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts degree from 4 Northwestern State University in 1986; and 5 WHEREAS, Clementine Hunter is retrospectively viewed as an early feminist 6 because her paintings consistently depict women in a more prominent posture than men, thus 7 evincing her view that women contributed more to stabilizing home and society; and 8 WHEREAS, as the only black folk artist to create a significant body of work giving 9 voice to her people's experience in the rural and agrarian south, Clementine Hunter occupies 10 a unique position in the history of American art; and 11 WHEREAS, her creations documented a period of history that other artists failed to 12 consider, and in so doing, gave others a taste of the rhythms and rituals of the Cane River 13 coast; and 14 WHEREAS, a resilient lady of small physical stature, through her paintings and 15 quilts, Clementine Hunter occupies a place at the pinnacle of American culture. 16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 17 designate October first annually as Clementine Hunter Day in Louisiana and does hereby 18 celebrate the legacy of Clementine Hunter, whose life and artistic achievements have 19 immeasurably benefitted the citizens of the great state of Louisiana.

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)]

HCR 107 Original

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Cox

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