HLS 23RS-1027 ORIGINAL

2023 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 23

BY REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN AND SENATOR BOUIE

CONDOLENCES: Expresses the condolences of the legislature on the death Sir Edward "Kidd" Jordan

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Sir Edward
3	"Kidd" Jordan.
4	WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the members of the
5	Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing, on April 7, 2023, of jazz maverick and
6	legendary saxophonist, Sir Edward "Kidd" Jordan; and
7	WHEREAS, Kidd Jordan was born in Crowley, Louisiana, on May 5, 1935, and grew
8	up listening to zydeco and blues music; he learned to play saxophone at a young age and,
9	after hearing the music of Charlie Parker and Lester Young, became interested in the art of
0	jazz improvisation; and
1	WHEREAS, Mr. Jordan continued to grow as a musician while he attended Ross
12	High School in Crowley; after earning his diploma, he attended Southern University, where
13	he advanced his music studies under the guidance of the university's band director, T. Leroy
4	Davis, and two woodwind teachers, John Banks and Huel Perkins; while attending Southern,
15	he also connected with another future musical legend, his bandmate and Kappa Alpha Psi
16	fraternity brother, Alvin Batiste; and
17	WHEREAS, after receiving a bachelor's degree, Mr. Jordan relocated to New Orleans
18	in 1955 and began playing R&B sets alongside musicians such as Guitar Slim, Ray Charles,
19	Big Maybelle, Big Joe Turner, Lloyd Lambert, Lawrence Cotton, Chuck Willis, George
20	Adams, and Choker Campbell: he also spent time in the historic Faubourg Tremé as an

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2 at Bethune High School in Norco, Louisiana, in 1955; and 3 WHEREAS, Mr. Jordan eventually continued his education at Millikin University 4 in Decatur, Illinois, where he earned a master's degree in music; he also pursued post-5 graduate summer studies with reed maker Fred Hempke at Northwestern University in 6 Evanston, Illinois; in 1972, he accepted a position as a professor of music at Southern 7 University at New Orleans; over the course of his thirty-four years as a professor, he shared 8 his vision of improvisation and encouraged his students to find their most authentic creative 9 voices; and 10 WHEREAS, Mr. Jordan also served as chair of Southern University at New Orleans's 11 Jazz Studies Program; in this role, he organized the first performance of the legendary World 12 Saxophone Quartet featuring Hamiet Bluiett, David Murray, Julius Hemphil, and Oliver 13 Lake; and 14 WHEREAS, Mr. Jordan was an incredibly humble and civic-minded individual; in 15 addition to his work at Southern, he dedicated more than twenty-five years as the artistic 16 director for the Louis Armstrong Satchmo Jazz Camp and as a teacher at the Jazz and 17 Heritage School of Music; and 18 WHEREAS, in keeping with the adage that no man is an island entire of itself, Mr. 19 Jordan taught countless students, including well-known musicians such as Wynton and 20 Branford Marsalis, Donald Harrison, Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews, Leroy Adams, 21 Calvin Johnson, Sammie "Big Sam" Williams, Charles Joseph, Julius Handy, Curley 22 Blanchard, Gary Brown, Kirk Ford, Raymond Deggs, George Pack, Richard Moten, John 23 Longo, Reggie Houston, Wendell Brunius, Abe Thompson, Maynard Chatters, Jr., Elton 24 Heron, Carl LeBlanc, Darrell Lavigne, Tony Dagradi, Jonathan "Jon" Batiste, Chief Xian 25 aTunde Adjuah, Gregory Davis, and others; and 26 WHEREAS, Kidd Jordan performed and recorded with a broad array of musicians 27 in styles ranging from R&B to avant-garde jazz, including Lena Horne, Aretha Franklin, 28 Nancy Wilson, Gladys Knight, Ray Charles, Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, R.E.M., Art 29 Neville, Aaron Neville, Johnny Adams, Deacon John, Ellis Marsalis, Cannonball Adderley, 30 Alvin Batiste, Archie Shepp, Dewey Redmond, Fred Anderson, Ornette Coleman, Sun RA,

instructor at the William Houston School of Music before beginning a formal teaching career

1 William Parker, Hamid Drake, Alan Silva, Ed Blackwell, and Cecil Taylor; he was a 2 member of two prominent New Orleans Big Bands, William Houston, and Herb Tassin; and 3 WHEREAS, Indie Jazz described Kidd Jordan as "a 'genteel man' who is probably 4 the single most under-documented jazz musician of his generation"; his true legacy lies, 5 however, in his selfless dedication to sharing his passion for music with his community and 6 the world for more than five decades; his legacy will live on through the establishment of the Kidd Jordan Institute of Jazz and Modern Music, an arts education entity dedicated to 7 8 the preservation of avant-garde music through arts collaboration, and through the massive 9 impact he has had on generations of musicians. 10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 11 express heartfelt condolences on the death of Sir Edward "Kidd" Jordan; does hereby 12 recognize Mr. Jordan's selfless dedication to his community through music education; and 13 does hereby extend sincerest wishes that his family, friends, and former colleagues all find 14 comfort in his music and in their shared memories of his truly beautiful life.

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 23 Original

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Jordan

Expresses the condolences of the legislature on the death of Sir Edward "Kidd" Jordan.