2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 116

BY REPRESENTATIVES KNOX, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAGLEY, BEAULLIEU, BISHOP, BOURRIAQUE, BOYD, BRASS, BROWN, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARPENTER, CARRIER, ROBBY CARTER, WILFORD CARTER, CORMIER, COUSSAN, COX, CREWS, DAVIS, DESHOTEL, DEVILLIER, DUBUISSON, ECHOLS, EDMONDS, EDMONSTON, EMERSON, FARNUM, FIRMENT, FISHER, FONTENOT, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, FRIEMAN, GADBERRY, GAINES, GAROFALO, GEYMANN, GLOVER, GOUDEAU, GREEN, HARRIS, HILFERTY, HODGES, HOLLIS, HORTON, HUGHES, HUVAL, ILLG, IVEY, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, MIKE JOHNSON, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JORDAN, KERNER, LACOMBE, LAFLEUR, LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MACK, MAGEE, MARCELLE, MARINO, MCCORMICK, MCFARLAND, MCKNIGHT, MCMAHEN, MIGUEZ, DUSTIN MILLER, GREGORY MILLER, MINCEY, MOORE, MUSCARELLO, NELSON, NEWELL, ORGERON, CHARLES OWEN, ROBERT OWEN, PHELPS, PIERRE, PRESSLY, RISER, ROMERO, SCHAMERHORN, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHLEGEL, SEABAUGH, SELDERS, ST. BLANC, STAGNI, STEFANSKI, TARVER, THOMAS, THOMPSON, TURNER, VILLIO, WHEAT, WHITE, WILLARD, WRIGHT, AND ZERINGUE

PARKS: Expresses support for development of a Levitt Pavilion in Armstrong Park in New Orleans

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To express the support of the Legislature of Louisiana for the development of a Levitt
3	Pavilion in Armstrong Park in New Orleans.
4	WHEREAS, the Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation, in partnership with the New
5	Orleans community, as led by the Friends of Levitt Pavilion New Orleans and the city of
6	New Orleans, have pledged their commitment to develop a Levitt Pavilion in Armstrong
7	Park; and
8	WHEREAS, the Levitt Foundation provides significant grants and support resources
9	to communities committed to developing and sustaining their own local Levitt program,
10	creating community-building synergy at the intersection of music and public space; the
11	Levitt program brings communities together through the joyful, shared experience of free
12	live music, and it serves as a catalyst for the revitalization of underused parks and public
13	spaces by providing a familiar place for people to connect; and

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1 WHEREAS, each Levitt Pavilion presents the Levitt series of more than forty annual 2 concerts and features a diverse lineup of entertainment that ranges from acclaimed emerging 3 talent to award-winning veteran performers in a wide array of music genres and cultural 4 programming; all concerts are free, making the arts accessible to everyone in a welcoming, 5 inclusive, and open lawn setting; and

6 WHEREAS, the development of a Levitt Pavilion is a community-driven process; 7 the Levitt Foundation was initially contacted in 2012 by Tremé For Tremé, a place-based 8 community organization, and over the years, key stakeholders and community organizations 9 surrounding Armstrong Park, in addition to city leadership, have consistently shown great 10 enthusiasm for this development; and

11 WHEREAS, the Levitt model is a private-public partnership at its core; all Levitt 12 venues are state-of-the-art outdoor venues that are city-owned facilities on city-owned land, 13 typically public parks; the model requires that a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization be 14 formed to work in partnership with the city and the Levitt Foundation in the development 15 of a Levitt Pavilion and maintenance of the local Levitt program; and

16 WHEREAS, Friends of Levitt New Orleans will be responsible for producing the 17 annual free Levitt concert series, which will be accomplished with grants and resources 18 provided by the Levitt Foundation and local funding; the Levitt Foundation pledges a 19 minimum \$500,000 seed grant towards the construction of the new Levitt Pavilion in 20 Armstrong Park, provided the site and venue design meet the requirements of the Levitt 21 Program, and an additional \$1.1 million in grant funding to help with the first five years of 22 operation and for core operating support; in the sixth year of operation and beyond, the 23 foundation will contribute a minimum of \$200,000 annually for core operating support 24 through 2041; and

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WHEREAS, the development of a Levitt Pavilion in Armstrong Park in New Orleans 26 is an inspiring undertaking that is worthy of the highest recognition for making the arts 27 accessible to all and for seeking to breathe new life into Louisiana's public spaces.

28 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 29 express support for the development of a Levitt Pavilion in Armstrong Park in New Orleans; 30 does hereby further recognize the Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation for its support of the

- 1 arts and local communities; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes for the success of this
- 2 development which will help to promote Louisiana and New Orleans culture in a welcoming
- 3 and inclusive setting.

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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Expresses the support of the Legislature of La. for the development of Levitt Pavilion in Armstrong Park.