

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 183

BY SENATORS BOUDREAUX AND KLEINPETER

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Louisiana, Blues, and guitar legend George "Buddy" Guy on the momentous occasion of his ninetieth birthday and to recognize his extraordinary contributions to the cultural, musical, and artistic heritage of the state of Louisiana and the United States.

WHEREAS, George "Buddy" Guy was born on July 30, 1936, in Lettsworth, Louisiana, and rose from humble beginnings in Pointe Coupee Parish to become one of the most influential Blues musicians in American history; and

WHEREAS, Buddy's musical career began in Louisiana, where he built his first two-string guitar at age seven; and

WHEREAS, after working for a few years as a janitor at Louisiana State University, he moved to Chicago where he recorded for Cobra Records and Chess Records and collaborated with childhood idols and musical giants such as Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf; and

WHEREAS, Buddy's raw emotion, showmanship, and blistering guitar style reshaped electric Blues; and

WHEREAS, his unmatched guitar technique, electrifying stage presence, and soulful artistry have shaped the modern Blues genre and inspired generations of musicians across the world, including Eric Clapton, Jimi Hendrix, Carlos Santana, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Joe Bonamassa, and countless others; and

WHEREAS, one of Rock and Roll's most iconic evenings took place at Buddy Guy's Checkerboard Lounge on the South Side of Chicago on November 22, 1981, when members of the Rolling Stones stopped by to watch their idol, Muddy Waters, perform, resulting in one of the greatest jam sessions ever recorded, with Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, and Ronnie Wood joining Muddy, Buddy, and other members of Chicago Blues royalty on stage; and

WHEREAS, aware that history was unfolding, Buddy ensured the moment was preserved for posterity by securing proper audio and video recording equipment; and

WHEREAS, Buddy's career spans more than six decades, during which he has earned numerous accolades, including multiple Grammy Awards, a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, a Presidential National Medal of Arts, a Kennedy Center Honor, induction into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, induction into the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame, recognition as a Living Legend of the Blues, and recognition as a "Louisiana Legend" by Louisiana Public Broadcasting; and

WHEREAS, despite his international acclaim, he has remained deeply connected to his Louisiana roots, often crediting his upbringing in Lettsworth and the musical traditions of the state for shaping his sound and identity; and

WHEREAS, Buddy continues to tour the world, play at his Chicago blues club, Buddy Guy's Legends, and ensures that the Blues endures as a great American art form; and

WHEREAS, he recently appeared in the Oscar-winning film Sinners, introducing him to a new generation of fans; and

WHEREAS, Buddy has served as a cultural ambassador for Louisiana, preserving and promoting the Blues as a foundational American art form and ensuring its vitality for future generations through mentorship, performance, and education; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Senate wishes to honor Buddy Guy not only for his artistic achievements but also for the pride he brings to the people of Louisiana through his lifelong dedication to music, creativity, and cultural preservation; and

WHEREAS, July 30, 2026, marks the ninetieth birthday of Buddy Guy, a milestone deserving of the highest recognition from his home state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Louisiana, Blues, and guitar legend George "Buddy" Guy on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday and does hereby extend its deepest appreciation for his immeasurable contributions to the musical heritage of Louisiana and the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Buddy Guy as a symbol of the respect, admiration, and gratitude of the Louisiana Senate.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE