

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 46

BY REPRESENTATIVE GAROFALO

COMMENDATIONS: Commends the Louisiana Living History Foundation and its partners for the bicentennial reenactment of the Battle of New Orleans

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend the Louisiana Living History Foundation and its partners upon the reenactment
3 of the Battle of New Orleans marking the bicentennial of the battle.

4 WHEREAS, in its endeavor to celebrate the bicentennial of the Battle of New
5 Orleans, the Louisiana Living History Foundation assembled the largest collection of people
6 in 1812-era uniforms since the War of 1812; and

7 WHEREAS, thanks to the efforts of the Louisiana Living History Foundation, one
8 thousand five hundred eighty-eight participants from Canada, the United Kingdom,
9 Australia, New Zealand, France, Germany, and the United States took formations as the
10 British and American armies of 1815 and reenacted the five battles of the Louisiana
11 campaign that constituted the Battle of New Orleans; and

12 WHEREAS, through the generosity of its partners, the Honorable James Coleman,
13 Terry Tedesco, and the Joseph & Arlene Meraux Charitable Foundations, the foundation
14 transformed a twenty-five acre plot of land into an historically accurate replica of the 1815
15 Chalmette Battlefield, including the ramparts of Line Jackson, on property just a mile away
16 from the actual battlefield site; and

17 WHEREAS, without constructing this "Living History Park", the bicentennial
18 reenactment could not have occurred because it is illegal, under federal law, to reenact a
19 battle on national park property; and

1 WHEREAS, more than fifteen thousand visitors were on hand to witness this
2 bicentennial event during the first weekend in January 2015; the visitors met more than six
3 hundred historical reenactors who camped on the field in Chalmette in period character; and

4 WHEREAS, more than three thousand school children attended, learning the
5 importance of the Battle of New Orleans in the history of the state and the nation; and

6 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Living History Foundation's reenactment of the Battle of
7 New Orleans was the largest tourism event in the history of St. Bernard Parish, bringing
8 millions of dollars into the local economy; and

9 WHEREAS, generous support from the St. Bernard Parish sheriff's office, fire
10 department, and parish government allowed the Louisiana Living History Foundation to put
11 on the largest bicentennial celebration of the War of 1812, but the enterprise was otherwise
12 financed almost completely with private contributions; and

13 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Living History Foundation plans to make the five-battle
14 reenactment experience an annual event to forever keep alive the memory of the valiant
15 heros of the Battle of New Orleans who saved the relatively young nation of the United
16 States from being ripped asunder; and

17 WHEREAS, the reenactment of the Battle of New Orleans promises to make
18 Louisiana a nexus of living historical tourism in North America; more than seven hundred
19 reenactors have already pledged to attend the 2016 event, which will bring millions of
20 dollars in economic impact to St. Bernard Parish and the state economy; and

21 WHEREAS, a goal of the Louisiana Living History Foundation is that the permanent
22 Meraux Living History Park will venerate not only the Battle of New Orleans but will be
23 available to other historical groups for battle reenactments throughout the year.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
25 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Louisiana Living History Foundation
26 and the organizers of the foundation's Battle of New Orleans reenactment and does hereby
27 express the pride of the citizens of Louisiana in the efforts of the foundation to maintain such
28 a vital part of the heritage of the state and nation.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
30 to the executive director of the Louisiana Living History Foundation.

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 46 Original

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Garofalo

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