

1 WHEREAS, she made her film debut in *Doctor Detroit* in 1983 and doled out a
2 number of supporting roles in other popular films such as *Silverado* in 1985, *The Slugger's*
3 *Wife* in 1985, *Jaws: The Revenge* in 1987, and *Dead Aim* in 1987; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Whitfield garnered the most attention working on television in
5 leading and supporting roles; and

6 WHEREAS, her early highlights include topical social dramas such as *The George*
7 *McKenna Story* in 1986, *Johnnie Mae Gibson: FBI* in 1986, and Oprah Winfrey's historical
8 miniseries *The Women of Brewster Place* in 1989; and

9 WHEREAS, she played classy, intelligent professional woman in series television
10 shows such as *Heartbeat* in 1988 and *Equal Justice* in 1990; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Whitfield achieved wide recognition in the title role of *The*
12 *Josephine Baker Story* in 1991, which required her to age from eighteen years old to
13 sixty-eight; and

14 WHEREAS, for that role, she won a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead
15 Actress in a Miniseries or a Movie, the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actress in
16 a Television Movie, Mini-Series or Dramatic Special, and was nominated for the Golden
17 Globe Award for Best Actress - Miniseries or Television Film; and

18 WHEREAS, after her breakthrough role as Josephine Baker, Ms. Whitfield had the
19 recurring role in the legal drama *Equal Justice* and continued her career starring in
20 made-for-television movies including *A Triumph of the Heart: The Ricky Bell Story* in 1991,
21 *Taking the Heat* in 1993, *State of Emergency* in 1994, *Sophie and Moonhanger* in 1996, *The*
22 *Wedding* in 1998, *The Color of Courage* in 1998, and *Deep in My Heart* in 1999; and

23 WHEREAS, in 1992, Ms. Whitfield earned a NAACP Image Award for her role in
24 the miniseries *Stompin' at the Savoy*, appeared in Pauly Shore's comedy *In the Army Now*
25 in 1994, and returned to series television alongside Bill Cosby in the short-lived *The Cosby*
26 *Mysteries* in 1994; and

27 WHEREAS, she also appeared in the films *A Thin Line Between Love and Hate* in
28 1996, *Gone Fishin'* in 1997, *The Planet of Junior Brown* in 1997, and earned excellent
29 reviews for her supporting work in *Eve's Bayou* in 1997, a role that drew on her Louisiana
30 heritage; and

1 WHEREAS, Ms Whitfield starred as Dorthea Garibaldi in two Disney Channel films,
2 *The Cheetah Girls* in 2003, and *The Cheetah Girls 2* in 2006; and

3 WHEREAS, she co-starred in the comedy film, *Head of State* in 2003, *Redemption*
4 in 2004, *Madea's Family Reunion* in 2006, *The Women* in 2008, *The Rebound* in 2009, and
5 *Mama, I Want to Sing* in 2011; and

6 WHEREAS, on television, Ms. Whitfield had recurring roles on *Boston Public*,
7 *Without a Trace*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, and *Mistresses*; and

8 WHEREAS, in 2015, she was cast in the leading role of Lady Mae Greenleaf, the
9 main villain in an Oprah Winfrey original scripted drama series *Greenleaf* about the
10 unscrupulous world of the Greenleaf family and their sprawling Memphis megachurch; and

11 WHEREAS, Lynn Whitfield merits a special measure of commendation and
12 recognition for the depth of her artistic ability in theater, motion pictures, and television, and
13 for the tremendous pride that she brings to her family, friends, the Baton Rouge community,
14 and the state of Louisiana.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16 commend and congratulate Lynn Whitfield on the extraordinary accomplishments and
17 recognition she has garnered as a thespian and wish for her a full measure of success and
18 happiness in her future endeavors.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Lynn
20 Whitfield.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

SCR 93 Original	DIGEST 2017 Regular Session	Colomb
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Commends Lynn Whitfield on her many accomplishments.