

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 159

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILLARD

A RESOLUTION

To commend Connie and Dwight Fitch on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary and for their decades-long contributions to the music culture of New Orleans.

WHEREAS, Connie and Dwight Fitch are lifelong residents of New Orleans; Connie's singing talents were discovered as a student at St. Raymond Elementary School, and Dwight's music career was influenced by his father, Herbert Fitch, a talented musician in his own right; and

WHEREAS, Connie and Dwight met at a talent show at St. Mary's Academy and Dwight was so impressed with Connie's voice that he asked her parents if she could join his musical group; together, they formed The Exiles Band; and

WHEREAS, in 1971, Connie and Dwight were married by her mentor, Father Michael Farrell, S.S.J., and the couple received a special Apostolic Blessing from Pope Paul VI; and

WHEREAS, after he suffered a broken jaw, Dwight put down his trumpet for a new passion, the piano; and

WHEREAS, Connie and Dwight have been blessed with five children, all of whom are talented musicians and singers; and

WHEREAS, for decades, Connie and Dwight Fitch have entertained New Orleans audiences with The Exiles Band, The Crescent City Connection, The Lead Society Band, and a trio, Quiet Storm; and

WHEREAS, the Fitch's musical roots are grounded in the church; they serve as ministers of music and direct multiple church choirs; they also teach music at several Catholic schools in the city; and

WHEREAS, Connie and Dwight have served as backstage managers, music consultants, and have performed at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival for a decade; and

WHEREAS, Connie and Dwight have given of their talents and resources in ways that will reap benefits for the culture of music in New Orleans for years to come; they formed Fitchfield Foundation to provide support for music education and burial assistance for indigent musicians and musical services for the bereaved; and

WHEREAS, Connie and Dwight Fitch are celebrating the fifty-year anniversary of their marriage, and it is fitting to honor the harmony this couple has brought to the music community in New Orleans.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby congratulate Connie and Dwight Fitch upon the merry occasion of their celebration of fifty years of marriage; does hereby commend the unity and harmony in spirit which have blessed their beloved family, fruitful ministries, and the music culture of New Orleans; and does hereby extend wishes on their golden wedding anniversary for bountiful blessings and much fruit to continue to grow from their anointed union.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Connie and Dwight Fitch.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES