

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 165

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the filmmakers and participants of *Built on Zydeco* and recognizes the film as an important Louisiana-made documentary.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and express sincere appreciation to the filmmakers, producers, and
3 contributors of *Built on Zydeco* on the occasion of a private screening of the
4 documentary in Lafayette, Louisiana, and to recognize the film as an important
5 Louisiana-made work that preserves and celebrates the stories, music, language, and
6 cultural legacy of Zydeco.

7 WHEREAS, *Built on Zydeco* is a Louisiana-made documentary film that examines
8 the roots, rhythms, artists, families, language, and lived experiences behind Zydeco, one of
9 Louisiana's most powerful and enduring cultural exports; and

10 WHEREAS, the film, directed by Milton Arceneaux and Dustin Cravins and
11 produced by Robert Chevalier, reflects a meaningful commitment to documenting Louisiana
12 culture through the voices, performances, and experiences of the people who have shaped
13 and sustained Zydeco; and

14 WHEREAS, *Built on Zydeco* is a Creole-directed documentary that celebrates the
15 artists, legacy, and cultural impact of Zydeco music and presents the genre not only as
16 entertainment, but also as a living record of community, history, and identity; and

17 WHEREAS, the film was made in Louisiana and filmed in Louisiana's Creole
18 Country, including Opelousas and other areas of St. Landry Parish, and documents the

1 musicians, families, dancers, and communities connected to Zydeco music and Creole
2 culture; and

3 WHEREAS, through interviews, live performances, archival materials, and
4 community storytelling, *Built on Zydeco* captures the sound, language, movement, memory,
5 and spirit of a musical tradition that continues to shape Louisiana's cultural identity; and

6 WHEREAS, *Built on Zydeco* highlights both the historical importance and the
7 present-day vitality of Zydeco by presenting the artists, families, culture bearers, and
8 communities who have helped carry the music across generations; and

9 WHEREAS, the documentary features and uplifts the voices and contributions of
10 artists associated with the history and continuation of Zydeco, including Terrance Simien,
11 Keith Frank, Reginald "Buckwheat Jr." Dural, and many others whose influence have carried
12 Zydeco across generations; and

13 WHEREAS, the film is rooted in Louisiana French and Kouri-Vini and highlights
14 the language, sound, and spirit that continue to shape Louisiana's cultural identity, tourism
15 economy, and artistic reputation; and

16 WHEREAS, *Built on Zydeco* demonstrates the power of documentary film to
17 preserve local stories, elevate Louisiana artists, educate new audiences, and honor
18 communities whose contributions are central to the cultural identity of the state; and

19 WHEREAS, the private screening of *Built on Zydeco* in Lafayette, Louisiana, offers
20 a significant opportunity to recognize the film's artistic, cultural, historical, and educational
21 values and celebrate Louisiana filmmakers and participants who brought this story to the
22 screen; and

23 WHEREAS, Lafayette and the surrounding Acadiana region have long served as a
24 center for Louisiana music, language, food, dance, storytelling, and community life, making
25 Lafayette a fitting place to recognize a documentary devoted to the history and continuing
26 vitality of Zydeco.

27 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
28 does hereby commend and express sincere appreciation to the visionary talents who
29 contributed to the production of *Built on Zydeco* on the occasion of a private screening of
30 the documentary in Lafayette, Louisiana, and does hereby recognize *Built on Zydeco* as an

