

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 165

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the film was made in Louisiana and filmed in Louisiana's Creole Country, including Opelousas and other areas of St. Landry Parish, and documents the musicians, families, dancers, and communities connected to Zydeco music and Creole culture; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and express sincere appreciation to the visionary talents who contributed to the production of *Built on Zydeco* on the occasion of a private screening of the documentary in Lafayette, Louisiana, and does hereby recognize *Built on Zydeco* as an important Louisiana-made documentary film that preserves and celebrates the stories, music, language, artists, families, communities, and cultural legacy of Zydeco.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the directors of *Built on Zydeco*.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE