# Regular Session, 2014

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 79

#### BY REPRESENTATIVE KATRINA JACKSON

## COMMENDATIONS: Commends artist Ransom Rambo and requests that the state Dept. of Education and school boards review his "Faces of Freedom" lithograph and consider incorporating it into the seventh grade American history curriculum

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To commend Ransom Rambo for his significant achievements and contributions as a
3	Louisiana artist and to urge and request the state Department of Education and public
4	school governing authorities to review his "Faces of Freedom" lithograph, which
5	honors African American heroes, to take note of its historic and educational value,
6	and to consider incorporating it into the seventh grade curriculum for American
7	history.
8	WHEREAS, artist Ransom Rambo is a native of Alexandria, Louisiana, and spent
9	his formative years in Georgetown, Louisiana; and
10	WHEREAS, Mr. Rambo studied at Northeast Louisiana University, now the
11	University of Louisiana at Monroe, and the Commercial Art College in Baton Rouge and
12	developed his distinctive style through his work on commissioned paintings and art
13	restoration in such cities as New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Natchez, Memphis, Charleston,
14	Houston, and El Paso; and
15	WHEREAS, one of Mr. Rambo's most important works is a lithograph entitled
16	"Faces of Freedom", a dramatic collection of original oil portraits honoring African
17	American heroes; and
18	WHEREAS, this lithograph includes portraits and short biographies, presented in a
19	time-line fashion, of Frederick Douglass, who was born into slavery, escaped to the North,
20	became a leader in the Abolitionist Movement, authored several books, and was the United

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1 States Ambassador to Haiti; Harriet Tubman, who was born into slavery, escaped and was 2 a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad, and led hundreds of slaves to freedom, earning 3 the nickname "Moses"; Booker T. Washington, who was born into slavery, began working 4 at the age of nine, and ultimately served as the president and principal developer of Tuskegee 5 University; George Washington Carver, who was born into slavery, an agriculture instructor 6 at Tuskegee, and a longtime researcher of peanuts, sweet potatoes, and cotton; Thurgood 7 Marshall, Civil Rights activist and the first African American justice on the United States 8 Supreme Court; Dorothy Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women, 9 administrator, educator, and social activist; and Rosa Parks, who made history when she 10 refused to give up her bus seat, sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott; and

WHEREAS, this lithograph is of true educational value and could be an excellent
resource in the teaching of American history, which is covered in seventh grade in schools
throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rambo's other works include an incredible variety of content,
including other portraits, antebellum homes, murals, pastoral scenes, landscapes, still lifes,
and religious scenes, and his oilfield scenery hangs in offices and banks across the United
States; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rambo also illustrated a book about Africa written by Nona
Freeman and did the cover art for *King Cotton and Old Glory* by Dr. William Banks Taylor,
and his near-life-size Biblical interpretations include "Risen Christ", "Never Too Late",
"Pentecost", and "Late Harvest"; and

WHEREAS, an active member of his community, Mr. Rambo is involved in the
historical restoration of the Bank of Pollock building in Pollock, Louisiana, built in 1907,
and a member of the Historical Society in Grant Parish; and

WHEREAS, Ransom Rambo's work occupies a special place in the artistic landscape
of his native Louisiana and America as a whole, and it is fitting to recognize its historical
importance and its potential role in the education of Louisiana's students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
 commend Ransom Rambo for his significant achievements and contributions as a celebrated
 Louisiana artist and does hereby urge and request the state Department of Education and

- 1 public school governing authorities to review Mr. Rambo's "Faces of Freedom" lithograph,
- 2 which honors African American heroes, to take note of its historic and educational value,
- 3 and to consider incorporating it into the seventh grade curriculum for American history.
- 4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
- 5 to Ransom Rambo, the president of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education,
- 6 and the state superintendent of education.

# 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)]

## Katrina Jackson

## HCR No. 79

Commends Ransom Rambo, La. artist, and requests that the state Dept. of Education and public school governing authorities review his "Faces of Freedom" lithograph, note its historic and educational value, and consider incorporating it into the seventh grade American history curriculum.