

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 150

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUVAL AND SENATOR MILLS

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences upon the death of Albert "Pyook" Berard

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To express condolences upon the death of Albert "Pyook" Berard, husband, father,
3 grandfather, brother, friend, and world-renowned musician.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the
5 Legislature of Louisiana learned of the death of Albert "Pyook" Berard of Cecilia, Louisiana,
6 on Wednesday, February 26, 2014, at the age of fifty-three; and

7 WHEREAS, born June 26, 1960, in the small town of Cecilia, Mr. Berard was born
8 with the gift of music; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Berard began playing the guitar as a young boy, and in high school,
10 started a rock band, in which he played lead guitar; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Berard was a founding member of the bands "Basin Brothers" and
12 "Al Berard Cajun Combo" and collaborated with many of South Louisiana's greatest
13 musicians during his career; and

14 WHEREAS, he was proud of his South Louisiana roots, and as a singer, songwriter,
15 fiddle player, and guitarist, he shared his gift of music with the world by playing traditional
16 and original Cajun French music; and

17 WHEREAS, his musical achievements include a grammy nomination in 1991 and
18 numerous awards from the Cajun French Music Association, including Fiddler of the Year
19 in 2007, Song of the Year in 2006, and Recording of the Year in 2002; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Berard was a faithful and dedicated parishioner of St. Joseph
2 Catholic Church in Cecilia, a member of the church choir for over forty years, and a member
3 of the Knights of Columbus; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Berard is survived by his loving wife of over thirty-two years,
5 Karleen G. Berard; three daughters, Dr. Opal LeBlanc Reon, and husband, Cody, Laura
6 Huval, and husband Adrian, and Maegan Berard; two brothers, Jim Berard and wife, Jackie,
7 and Rex Berard and wife, Belinda; four sisters, Ella Goulas and husband, Ronald, Penny
8 Guidry, Genie Patin and husband, Norton, and Sylvia Charpentier; and three grandchildren
9 Nate, Tex, and Claudia; and

10 WHEREAS, with the death of Mr. Berard, Louisiana has lost one of its finest
11 citizens; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Berard, who was admired by all whose lives he touched, leaves
13 behind a rich and unique legacy and is greatly missed; and

14 WHEREAS, the soul of a people is maintained and cultivated by its artists, and
15 through his music, Mr. Berard ensured that Cajun heritage would remain vibrant and sustain
16 kinship among the people of South Louisiana for generations; and

17 WHEREAS, although the death of Mr. Berard has left a tremendous void in his
18 community, his memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved
19 him and in the music that he loved dearly.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
21 express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Albert "Pyook" Berard of
22 Cecilia, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his outstanding accomplishments and
23 contributions as a musician and citizen, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for
24 the pride and honor that this wonderful man will forever bring to his family, friends,
25 community, state, and nation.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
27 to the family of Albert "Pyook" Berard.

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)]

Huval

HCR No. 150

Expresses the condolences of the legislature upon the death of Albert "Pyook" Berard.