

2015 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 76

BY SENATOR BROOME

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Leonard Augustus Jr. for his contributions to the fine arts.

A RESOLUTION

To commend Leonard Augustus Jr. for his contributions to the fine arts.

WHEREAS, Leonard Augustus Jr. is a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, graduated from Scotlandville High School, served six years in the United States Army Reserves, and graduated from Southern University; and

WHEREAS, he is an acclaimed dancer, singer, actor, choreographer, and community activist, along with being the education program consultant for the Louisiana State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, his dance career originated with The Dancers' Workshop, home of the Baton Rouge Ballet Theatre, and he has worked to expand the workshop program by attending annual Southwest Dance Conferences where renowned choreographers and teachers offer extended fine arts career instruction; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Augustus is the recipient of the 2010 Louisiana Division of the Arts Artist Fellowship award, participates in numerous master choreographers classes that tour throughout Louisiana, and mentors underserved children and adults who are interested in dance and theater; and

WHEREAS, following his belief that God is generous, he shares his mastered skills by supporting charitable organizations to raise money and awareness, and has reintroduced

1 the art of dance in worship ceremonies and diverse venues where the community has named
2 him a teacher, preacher, community builder, poet, activist, king of dance, counselor, and
3 missionary; and

4 WHEREAS, volunteer efforts of Mr. Augustus include work at the Food Bank, the
5 Sexual Trauma Awareness & Response Center, Susan G. Komen, the HIV/Aids Alliance for
6 Region II, Inc., the Mid City Dance Project, the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association,
7 the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, the Louisiana State University Athletic
8 Department, Flashmob, Big Buddy, the Arc of East Ascension, Tulipa, Inc., and he serves
9 on the board of the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts, appointed by the Louisiana State
10 Department of Education superintendent; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Augustus has numerous performance roles as a dancer,
12 choreographer, emcee, and director; he has served as emcee for the annual Louisiana Public
13 Broadcasting membership drive; he has danced and choreographed in *CATS*, *A Chorus Line*,
14 *42nd Street*, *Don Quixote*, and *West Side Story* with the Baton Rouge Little Theater; he has
15 directed Big Buddy Annual Dancing with the Stars, "Dance Arty" with the Arts Council of
16 Greater Baton Rouge, and the film by Andre Chapoy, *Harvest of the Dead*; and

17 WHEREAS, he has also served as a local judge for the local FOX Network for *So*
18 *You Think You Can Dance* and *American Idol*.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
20 does hereby commend Leonard Augustus Jr. for his extraordinary contributions to the fine
21 arts.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
23 Mr. Leonard Augustus Jr.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Broussard-Johnson.

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Commends Leonard Augustus Jr. for his contributions to the fine arts.