



Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. _____**

Introduced by: Smith V

1 A HOUSE RESOLUTION recognizing the Ninth Annual
2 Bill Johnson Black Film Festival.

3 *Whereas, African American Achievers Youth Corps, Inc.,*
4 *partners with other local groups to sponsor a film festival*
5 *dedicated to Gary native William L. Johnson, which is hosted*
6 *by the actor;*

7 *Whereas, William Johnson is a graduate of Emerson School*
8 *for the Visual and Performing Arts in Gary and has had*
9 *starring roles in many theatrically released projects, including*
10 *a lead role in "Blue Hill Avenue", which garnered top honors*
11 *at the Acapulco and Hollywood Black film festivals;*

12 *Whereas, More than just an actor, William Johnson's goal is*
13 *to "reinvest the majority of his earnings into a structured*
14 *business that supports the advancement of the urban*

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1 *community. By spreading the message of self-reliance and*
2 *providing opportunities to qualified individuals from*
3 *disadvantaged backgrounds, he hopes to break the cycle that*
4 *keeps generations impoverished";*

5 *Whereas, Equally important to William Johnson is his*
6 *passion to deliver conscious messages through his music using*
7 *his stage persona, "Brotha Bill";*

8 *Whereas, William Johnson has been involved in more than*
9 *20 film projects and independent short films and features,*
10 *including "Motives 2", "The Mannsfield 12", "Crossover",*
11 *"Doing Hard Time", "Tears of a Clown", "Motives", "Move",*
12 *"Wanted: Soulful Energy Xchange", "Two Degrees", "Nothing*
13 *Like Thanksgiving", and "Perfectly Single";*

14 *Whereas, The ninth annual Bill Johnson Black Film Festival*
15 *will feature the films "Bound and Gagged" by Shannon Whren;*
16 *"SnapShot" by Semone Brown; "The Unwilling Series Pilot" by*
17 *Antonio Jefferson; "Slave 2" by Rico Shay; "Kaiju" by Rémi*
18 *Thévenart; "Chasing After You" by Paige B. Alston; "Latasha*
19 *Harlins: A Rose That Grew From Concrete" by Shannon*
20 *Bennett; "Peace" by Sydney Hefflin; "Hollywood Star" by*
21 *Wenston Black; "African Americans on United States Postage*
22 *Stamps" by Rose Grier; "The Sound of Silence" by Donald*
23 *Wilson; "Part of Me" by Marcellus Cox; "The Final Exam" by*
24 *Jason Bostic; "The Truth Shall Make You Free" by Ja'mal*
25 *Jones; "One Last Goodbye" by Latasha Kennedy; "Thicke" by*
26 *Britt Banks; "Ronald" by Britt Banks; "Grandma's House" by*
27 *Malachi Johnson; and "God I'm Not Real" by Bena Klier*
28 *Boules;*

29 *Whereas, The Bill Johnson Black Film Festival came about*
30 *as an idea to provide wholesome entertainment for northwest*
31 *Indiana, to expose the northwest Indiana community to quality*
32 *Black films, to help northwest Indiana come together to share*
33 *ideas, and to hold discussions surrounding film messages; and*

34 *Whereas, The arts are a valuable tool in creating an*
35 *atmosphere of understanding and open discussions to help*
36 *bring communities together in a meaningful way: Therefore,*



1 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the*
2 *General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

3 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
4 recognizes the value to the community of the ninth annual Bill
5 Johnson Black Film Festival and thanks William L. Johnson for
6 dedicating his time and energy to this worthwhile project.

7 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
8 Representatives shall transmit copies of this resolution to the
9 African American Achievers Youth Corps, Inc., and William L.
10 Johnson.

