

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. ____**

Introduced by: Smith V

A HOUSE RESOLUTION recognizing Vivian Carter and Vee-Jay Records.

Whereas, Born in Tunica, Mississippi on March 25, 1921, Vivian Carter moved to Gary as a child;

Whereas, Vivian met James C. Bracken, her future husband, in 1944;

Whereas, In 1948, Vivian won a talent contest conducted by the legendary Al Benson for new radio deejays in Chicago and her life in the music industry began;

Whereas, Vivian worked as a deejay at WGES in Chicago and WJOB in Hammond and, together with James, founded Vivian's Record Shop in Gary;

Whereas, In 1953, after three years of saving their money, Vivian Carter and James C. Bracken founded Vee-Jay Records



in Gary;

Whereas, Meanwhile, Vivian continued deejaying in Gary, joining WGRY and then moving to WWCA, which was instrumental in attracting talent to their new label;

Whereas, Vee-Jay Records quickly became a major independent record label, with their first recorded song going to the top ten on the national rhythm and blues charts;

Whereas, Vee-Jay also enjoyed considerable success with rock and roll and jazz acts, most notably the Four Seasons and the Beatles;

Whereas, Vee-Jay records disbanded in 1966, but Vivian remained active in radio well into the 1980s; and

Whereas, Vee-Jay Records and Vivian Carter contributed a tremendous legacy of blues, rhythm and blues, doowop, jazz, soul, pop, and rock and roll for future generations to enjoy: Therefore,

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

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives wishes to
2 remember the contributions of Vivian Carter and Vee-Jay Records to
3 the music industry.

