

**SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring the Town of Orleans,  
Indiana, on the bicentennial celebration of its founding.

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**HOUCHIN**

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\_\_\_\_\_, read first time and referred to Committee on

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1           A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION honoring the Town of Orleans,  
2           Indiana, on the bicentennial celebration of its founding.

3           *Whereas, Platted 200 years ago in 1815, Orleans stands*  
4           *as the oldest town in Orange County, Indiana;*

5           *Whereas, Founded two months after Andrew Jackson's*  
6           *famous victory over the British at New Orleans, the settlers*  
7           *named their new town in honor of this historic event;*

8           *Whereas, The original plat of the town was recorded in*  
9           *Salem, Indiana, while Orange County was then part of*  
10          *Washington County and Indiana was still a territory and had*  
11          *not yet achieved statehood;*

12          *Whereas, This original plat of the Town of Orleans is*  
13          *dated March 11, 1815, and was signed by Samuel Lewis and*  
14          *William McFarlane as owners of the land, and by Samuel*  
15          *Alexander, a surveyor;*

16          *Whereas, in 1851 the citizens of Orleans gave the*  
17          *handsome sum of \$40,000 so that Orleans would become one*  
18          *of the earliest stops on the New Albany Salem Railroad and*  
19          *later became one of the first stops on the Monon Railroad,*  
20          *proving that the citizens of Orleans are ever committed to*  
21          *making sacrifices today for the benefit of a brighter future;*



1        *Whereas, in the mid 1960s the town embarked on*  
 2        *Operation Dogwood which succeeded in its ultimate goal of*  
 3        *planting hundreds of Dogwood trees and thus earning the*  
 4        *nickname "The Dogwood Capitol of Indiana" as proclaimed*  
 5        *by Governor Edgar Whitcomb in his 1970 resolution and as*  
 6        *a result of their efforts now enjoys the renowned Annual*  
 7        *Orleans Dogwood Festival;*

8        *Whereas, the Town of Orleans has always produced*  
 9        *exceptional individuals who left their mark on our history*  
 10       *including: Samuel S. Lewis, co-founder of Orleans and*  
 11       *veteran of the War of 1812 and Texas's War of*  
 12       *Independence; Civil War General William T. Spicely, leader*  
 13       *of the 24<sup>th</sup> Indiana Volunteer Infantry; Bishop Richard*  
 14       *Roberts, leader in the formation of the early Methodist*  
 15       *Protestant Church; John M. Bloss, Indiana Superintendent*  
 16       *of Public Instruction; and many future leaders yet to come;*

17       *Whereas, Since the days before our statehood was just a*  
 18       *glint on the horizon, the people of the Town of Orleans have*  
 19       *been there at the forefront leading Indiana through its*  
 20       *storied history; and*

21       *Whereas, It is fitting that the Indiana General Assembly*  
 22       *give special recognition to the Town of Orleans as its*  
 23       *residents celebrate the town's bicentennial: Therefore,*

24                *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly*  
 25                *of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:*

26                SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly honors the Town  
 27                of Orleans on the bicentennial celebration of its founding.

28                SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to  
 29                transmit copies of this Resolution to The Honorable Michael Cloud,  
 30                Honorary Chair of the Orleans Bicentennial Committee; Robert  
 31                Henderson, Chair of the Orleans Bicentennial Committee; Mike Fields,  
 32                President of the Orleans Town Council; Greta Llewellyn, President of  
 33                the Orleans Chamber of Commerce; and Terry Cochran of the  
 34                Descendants of Colonel Samuel Lewis.

