

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 148

BY REPRESENTATIVE ORGERON

A RESOLUTION

To commend world champion carver Jett Brunet.

WHEREAS, Jett Brunet was born in 1964; he is the eldest of two sons born to world champion carver Tan Brunet; he grew up watching his father carve, and by the age of seven, he settled on professional carving as his future career; in addition to his father's influence, he was inspired by his family's trips to the Easton Waterfowl Festival and the Ward Foundation World Championships Wildfowl Carving Competition; and

WHEREAS, Jett entered his first carving competition at the age of nine, the same year that he began carving on his own; his talent was evident from a young age, as he won two titles as the Most Outstanding Teenage Carver in the World; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brunet holds the record as the youngest person ever to win the Ward World Pairs Championships for his victory at the 1985 event when he was just twenty-one years old; he won the event again in 1987, and in that same year, was honored by having his 1985 world championship pair of Ruddy Ducks exhibited at the Smithsonian Museum; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brunet also completed an unprecedented sweep of the podium awards for open-level decorative floating duck carvings at the Ward World Championships in 1989; he earned first, second, and third Best of Show awards with carvings of a gadwall, pintail, and redhead; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Brunet was commissioned to create a featured carving for the 1991 Easton Waterfowl Festival and, under the advice of art collector Sandy Garfinkle, carved a striking life-sized bald eagle that remains one of the most iconic works in his collection; and

WHEREAS, throughout his illustrious carving career, Mr. Brunet has received many awards and honors; he won back-to-back Ward World Interpretive Wood Sculpture Championships in 2018 and 2019 and fourteen-consecutive Best of Show awards in the Floating Waterfowl Competition at major wildfowl shows throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his competitive carving, Mr. Brunet has been creating art work for Ducks Unlimited since 1999, and he has created over 1.3 million reproductions of his carvings to help conserve and benefit wetlands throughout the United States and Canada; he and his works have also appeared in publications such as *Time* magazine, *National Geographic* magazine, and the "National Geographic Explorer" television program; and

WHEREAS, today, Mr. Brunet focuses on carving interpretive works that adopt traditional sculpting's emphasis on form and structure; he is a truly impressive artist whose achievements bring great pride to the state of Louisiana and are worthy of the highest recognition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend world champion carver Jett Brunet; does hereby recognize Mr. Brunet's waterfowl and birds of prey collections as sincere interpretations of the natural beauty seen across Louisiana; and does hereby extend sincere hopes that Mr. Brunet continue to create many beautiful works that inspire all Louisianians to cherish the natural beauty of our home.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jett Brunet.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES