

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Jon Batiste on winning the Album of the Year and four other awards at the 64th Annual Grammy Awards.

WHEREAS, Jon Batiste grew up in Kenner, Louisiana, and attended St. Augustine High School and the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts and completed a bachelor's and a master's degree at Juilliard; and

WHEREAS, his family is an acclaimed New Orleans musical dynasty that includes Lionel Batiste of the Treme Brass Band, Milton Batiste of the Olympia Brass Band, and Russell Batiste, Jr.; at eight years old, he played percussion and drums in his family's band, the Batiste Brothers Band, and at the age of eleven, he switched to the piano; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Batiste has since gone on to accomplish a great deal in the music world; in 2005, he started the band Stay Human with two of his Juilliard peers, and in 2007, he made his solo debut at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, producing and performing his own show; he and his band have also served as the house band on *The Late Show with Stephen Colbert* since 2015; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Batiste composed music for the 2020 Pixar animated film *Soul*; he, along with collaborators Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross, went on to win the Academy Award for Best Original Score and a Golden Globe Award for Best Original Score; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Batiste's musical career reached a new high in 2021; after receiving eleven nominations during voting for the 64th Annual Grammy Awards, he was featured on the national telecast performing "Freedom" from his album *We Are*; at the end of the evening, he left with five Grammy awards, including the coveted Grammy for "Album of the Year"; and

WHEREAS, Jon Batiste is the first artist from the New Orleans area to win a Grammy for Album of the Year; the album features New Orleans acts such as Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews, PJ Morton, the Hot 8 Brass Band, the Gospel Soul Children, and the St. Augustine Marching 100; and

WHEREAS, Jon Batiste is an incredibly talented individual who Louisiana proudly recognizes as one of its own; he is most deserving of the highest recognition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Jon Batiste on winning Album of the Year and four other awards at the 64th Annual Grammy Awards; does hereby further recognize Mr. Batiste for his inclusion of his fellow New Orleans musicians in his musical creations and his promotion of the city's artistic culture on the world stage; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes for his continued success and future prosperity as he continues on his journey as a musical artist.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jon Batiste.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES