

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 31

BY SENATOR PERRY

A RESOLUTION

To commend The Band Courtbouillon for winning the Grammy Award for Best Regional Roots album at the 55th Annual Grammy Awards.

WHEREAS, The Band Courtbouillon of Valcour Records is a Cajun band from Lafayette, Louisiana, that consists of Wayne Toups of Crowley, Louisiana, Steve Riley of Mamou, Louisiana, and Wilson Savoy of Eunice, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Wayne Toups, age fifty-five, first picked up an accordion when he was thirteen and quickly began winning local accordion contests; he has combined Cajun music, zydeco, rhythm and blues, and rock into a genre he calls zydeCajun; and

WHEREAS, Wayne sings in both English and French and was inducted into the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame in 2010; in 2011, he entered both the Gulf Coast Hall of Fame and the Cajun French Music Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Steve Riley, age forty-three, began playing accordion when he was thirteen, and enjoyed a three-year apprenticeship playing accordion in the band of fiddle-playing Cajun legend Dewey Balfa; and

WHEREAS, in 1991, Steve started his own band, Steve Riley and The Mamou Playboys, who have recorded seven albums, won countless awards, and have been nominated for three Grammy Awards; he is widely considered one of the world's premier accordion players; and

WHEREAS, Wilson Savoy began his musical career in 2000 with the Savoy Family Band, consisting of his father Marc, mother Ann, and brother Joel Savoy; he has played accordion for most of his life, having been given as a child a hand-built accordion by his father; and

WHEREAS, Wilson has taught Cajun music ensemble at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette for three years and continues to teach one-on-one lessons through the university, all through the Tommy Comeaux Endowment; and

WHEREAS, the band's 2011 debut album, *The Band Courtbouillon*, won the Grammy Award, the highest honor a recording act can receive for outstanding achievement in the music industry, for Best Regional Roots album at the 55th Annual Grammy Awards, on February 10, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the album consists of fourteen songs with a mix of new songs and some classic Cajun hits; and

WHEREAS, The Band Courtbouillon is only the second Cajun band to win a Grammy, following in the footsteps of BeauSoleil, who won a Grammy for Best Traditional Folk album in 1997; and

WHEREAS, in April 2013, The Band Courtbouillon was awarded the key to the city of Lafayette by Mayor Joey Durel; and

WHEREAS, The Band Courtbouillon merits a sincere and heartfelt measure of commendation for their outstanding professional achievements and for the tremendous honor and pride that they bring to their family, friends, and community, the state of Louisiana, and all who know them.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend The Band Courtbouillon upon winning their first Grammy award at the 55th Grammy Awards, does hereby recognize their exceptional accomplishments and manifold contributions to the Cajun and folk music industry, does hereby record for posterity the extraordinary careers they have had thus far, and does hereby extend to them every good wish for continued success, prosperity, and happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to The Band Courtbouillon.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE