

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 216

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Tonya Boyd-Cannon for her accomplishments.

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize New Orleans' soul vocalist, Tonya Boyd-Cannon, and to commend her for an accomplished career as a recording artist; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Boyd-Cannon was born in Mississippi and raised in Louisiana; she is the daughter of a preacher, and her upbringing introduced her to the music scene at a very early age; and

WHEREAS, while much of Ms. Boyd-Cannon's formative musical experience came through her participation in middle school and high school band and through auditory observation, she is also a classically trained vocalist that is currently studying vocal performance at a university; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Boyd-Cannon's first professional experience in the music industry was as a background vocalist for Jean Knight, singer of the 1970s hit single "Mr. Big Stuff"; in addition to this, she has also worked as a music vocal coach, educator, creative arts teacher, and minister of music; she is also credited with creating the first male and female mass choir at the Orleans Parish Prison; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Boyd-Cannon's voice is described as a "rare contralto voice, almost identical to that of a countertenor"; her talent earned her a victory at the 2010 "Budweiser's: Battle for the Crown" contest and gave her the opportunity to open for Anthony Hamilton and KEM & Jaheim; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Boyd-Cannon performed at Alabama's "Bayfest" in 2011 and 2012, and she also performed with the Stooges Brass Band at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival and the Essence Music Festival; her performance at the Essence Music Festival led to an impromptu on-stage performance with Grammy-award winning rapper-songwriter Eve; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Boyd-Cannon also competed on the NBC Emmy-winning show, "The Voice", as a member of Adam Levine's team; she placed in the top twenty and returned to New Orleans to continue her musical career; she is most deserving of the highest recognition for her incredible career.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Tonya Boyd-Cannon for her accomplishments and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that she continue to dedicate herself to her vocal craft and enjoy many future successes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Tonya Boyd-Cannon.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES