SLS 22RS-589 **ORIGINAL**

2022 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 35

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the creators of the film "The Five Priests" on being honored as an Official Selection of the 2022 Cannes World Film Festival.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the creators of the film, *The Five Priests*, on being honored as an Official Selection of the 2022 Cannes World Film Festival.

WHEREAS, *The Five Priests*, a full-length documentary that recounts the lives of five Roman Catholic priests who died in the 1873 Yellow Fever epidemic in Shreveport and are now Servants of God in the Vatican canonization process, has been honored as an Official Selection of the 2022 Cannes World Film Festival; and

WHEREAS, the film was produced by the Louisiana State University-Shreveport Foundation in conjunction with the Cathedral of St. John Berchmans, and directed by Chris Charles Scott of Strategery Films in Las Vegas, Nevada; and

WHEREAS, the film features the Apostolic Nuncio to the United States (the Vatican ambassador), Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Bishop Francis Malone of the Diocese of Shreveport, Shreveport Mayor Adrian Perkins, Father Peter Mangum of the Cathedral of St. John Berchmans, local author W. Ryan Smith, and Dr. Cheryl White, history professor at Louisiana State University-Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, the documentary is based upon the book, *Shreveport Martyrs of 1873: The Surest Path to Heaven*, authored by Mangum, Smith, and White, and published by The History Press in October 2021; and

WHEREAS, *The Five Priests* premiered at the Strand Theatre in Shreveport on November 4, 2021, and has been enjoying critical acclaim during the current international film festival season; and

WHEREAS, the acknowledgment and selection from the prestigious Cannes World Film Festival represents the highest honor in the world for independent filmmakers and will be held at various cinema venues in Cannes, France in May 2022, with the theme of "Remember the Future," and the stated objective to "unearth rare gems, to highlight a new generation of emerging talents and a new wave of filmmakers"; and

WHEREAS, to date, *The Five Priests* is also the winner of Best Feature Documentary at the European Film Festival; Best Documentary, Best Idea for a Documentary, and Best Cinematography in a Documentary at the World Independent Cinema Awards Los Angeles; Best Short Documentary at the Barcelona International Film Festival; Diamond Award for Best Documentary Feature at the SoCal Film Awards; Gold Award for Feature Documentary at the Spotlight Documentary Awards; Award of Excellence at the Indie Fest Film Festival; Honorable Mention: Documentary Feature at the Los Angeles Film Awards; Finalist Feature Documentary at the Texas Film Festival; and Semi-Finalist Feature Documentary at the New York International Film Awards; and

WHEREAS, additionally, the film is currently an Official Selection of the Rome Prisma Independent Film Festival, and the Nieves International Christian Film Festival.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize and congratulate the creators of the film, *The Five Priests*, on their multiple award winnings, in addition to being honored as an Official Selection of the 2022 Cannes World Film Festival.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Louisiana State University-Shreveport Foundation and the Cathedral of St. John Berchmans.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Lebra R. Bias.

DIGEST

SCR 35 Original 2022 Regular Session Peacock

Commends the creators of the film *The Five Priests* on being honored as an Official Selection of the 2022 Cannes World Film Festival.