

RESOLUTION

NO. R-21-165

CITY HALL: May 6, 2021

**BY: COUNCILMEMBERS GISLESON PALMER
SECONDED BY:**

WHEREAS, Allen Toussaint, born and raised in New Orleans Louisiana and raised in the Gert Town Neighborhood, was a world-famous singer, songwriter, musician, and record producer; and

WHEREAS, over the course of his career Toussaint worked with numerous musicians and bands, writing and arranging music for the likes of Irma Thomas, the Pointer Sisters, Dr. John, and many more, while also recording and releasing albums of his own; and

WHEREAS, Toussaint is a Grammy-nominated artist who received a Grammy Trustees award, and is credited with being one of the premier ambassadors for New Orleans music and culture to the world; and

WHEREAS, Toussaint has been inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Louisiana Music Hall of Fame, the Songwriters Hall of Fame, the Blues Hall of Fame, and given the National Medal of the Arts by President Barrack Obama; and

WHEREAS, Toussaint's song "Southern Nights" is written as a love letter to Louisiana and would be the first state song written by an African-American songwriter; **NOW THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Orleans City Council supports the passage of proposed HB 351, filed by Louisiana State Representatives Vincent Pierre and Matthew Willard, which calls for making Allen Toussaints "Southern Nights" an official state cultural song of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOVLED, That the Clerk of Council transmit certified copies of this resolution to all members of the New Orleans delegation: Senator Karen Carter Peterson; Senator Troy Carter; Senator Sharon Hewitt; Senator Jimmy Harris; Senator Joseph Bouie; Representative Royce Duplessis; Representative Raymond E. Garofalo, Jr.; Representative Gary M. Carter; Representative Stephanie Hilferty; Representative Mandie Landry; Representative Aimee Adatto Freeman; Representative Matthew Willard; Representative Candace Newell; Representative Jason Hughes; and Representative Mack Cormier.

THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION WAS READ IN FULL, THE ROLL WAS CALLED ON THE ADOPTION THEREOF, THE RESULT WAS AS FOLLOWS:

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

AND THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED.