

1 Introduced April 28, 2009, by Councilman
2 Canada, seconded by Councilman Hicks

3 **RESOLUTION R09-11**
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5 A resolution by the Slidell City Council supporting and endorsing the
6 Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism.

7 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, will be
8 presenting a 30% budget cut of their department as requested by the Governor of
9 Louisiana; and
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12 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell Olde Towne Cultural District, Slidell Museum,
13 historic Slidell Train Depot and Heritage Park are served by the Office of Cultural,
14 Recreation and Tourism and may be affected due to state budget cuts; and
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17 WHEREAS, the tourism industry plays a vital part in the economic well-being of
18 the City of Slidell and even more evidently in the existence of the historic Olde Towne Slidell
19 Cultural District; and
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22 WHEREAS, prior to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, cultural industries and tourism
23 are two of only four industries in Louisiana that account for over 100,000 jobs and in 2004,
24 tourism in Louisiana was a \$9.4 billion industry, the state's second largest, and helped generate
25 over \$600 million in state and local tax dollars; and
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28 WHEREAS The Office of Cultural Development has created a system of funding
29 programs that have become national models of equitable investment of state funds; and
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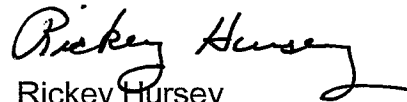
32 WHEREAS, economic impact studies indicate that for every \$1 invested in the
33 arts, \$6 in local and state taxes are generated, and loss of \$798,624 in funding would decrease
34 dollars returned to the state by \$4.8 million; and
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4 WHEREAS, in Louisiana, the non-profit arts sector creates over 18,000 of the jobs
5 within the cultural economy, and the Department of Cultural, Recreation and Tourism's strategic
6 support of that non-profit arts sector is critical to its workforce.
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9 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Slidell City Council that it does
10 hereby request the State of Louisiana revisit the proposed cuts to the Department of Cultural,
11 Recreation and Tourism and that the State of Louisiana explore other resources to supplement
12 these programs.
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15 **ADOPTED** this 28th day of April, 2009.
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19 Rickey Hursey
20 President of the Council
21 Councilman, District B

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24 Thomas P. Reeves
25 Council Administrator
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