

Introduced Version

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1

Introduced by: Kruzan

A HOUSE RESOLUTION honoring Hoagy Carmichael on the 100th year anniversary of his birth.

Whereas, Hoagland “Hoagy” Howard Carmichael, the first born child of Howard and Lida Mary Carmichael, entered the world on South Grant Street in Bloomington, Indiana, on November 22, 1899;

Whereas, Hoagy discovered his love of jazz music at a young age listening to the black jazz bands playing in Indianapolis clubs and began imitating the exciting new techniques of the jazz groups;

Whereas, in 1920, Hoagy entered Indiana University, moved into the Kappa Sigma house, and began playing his tiny sounding piano at his hangout, the Book Nook, in Bloomington;

Whereas, for a time, Hoagy alternated between college and music, playing gigs in Indiana, Florida and Chicago, where he met Bix Beiderbecke, whose band later recorded Hoagy’s first



composition, the “Riverboat Shuffle”;

Whereas, seeing firsthand the rough-and-tumble jazz life, Hoagy decided to pursue his second love, the respectable and more prosperous profession of law, earning a law degree from IU in 1926;

Whereas, while sitting in his law office in Florida, Hoagy heard “Washboard Blues”, a tune he had sold on his way to Florida, locked the door to his law office, put the key under the door, and returned to Bloomington to resume his career in music;

Whereas, in the summer of 1927, Hoagy recorded “Star Dust” which soon began being played world-wide;

Whereas, Hoagy then traveled to New York where he found success with hits including “Georgia on My Mind”, “Lazy River”, “Little Old Lady”, and “Lazybones”;

Whereas, while in New York, Hoagy met his bride, Ruth Minardi; at their wedding reception, both George Gershwin and Hoagy’s mother entertained at the piano playing Hoagy’s composition, “Wedding Waltz”;

Whereas, after moving to Hollywood in 1936, Hoagy wrote memorable film songs such as “The Nearness of You”, “Heart and Soul”, “Small Fry”, and “Two Sleepy People”, and later stumbled into an acting career;

Whereas, Hoagy’s first film, “To Have and Have Not”, which he wrote the movie’s score in addition to acting in, turned into a film classic with Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall;

Whereas, Hoagy later appeared in eight other motion pictures, including the Academy Award-winning “The Best Years of Our Lives”, and continued to produce film tunes including the 1951 Oscar for best song “In the Cool, Cool, Cool of the Evening” sung by Bing Crosby;



Whereas, Hoagy went on to perform on numerous radio and television shows, and wrote his autobiography, "The Star Dust Road" in 1945, and a sequel, "Sometimes I Wonder", in 1965; and

Whereas, Hoagy Carmichael truly loved Bloomington and Indiana University, and will always be fondly remembered.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives hereby honors Hoagy Carmichael on the 100th anniversary of his birth.

SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House shall transmit a copy of this Resolution to Hoagy Carmichael's sons, Hoagy, Jr. and Randy, and to Indiana University.

