## State of Louisiana House of Representatives



## AN EXPRESSION OF COMMENDATION

WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize the bicentennial celebration of the birth of President Ulysses S. Grant and to educate the people of Louisiana about his contributions to the nation, both militarily and politically; and

WHEREAS, Ulysses S. Grant was born in Point Pleasant, Ohio, on April 27, 1822; with the outbreak of the Civil War, he offered his services to the Union Army's cause and, over the course of his battles and campaigns, became the principal author of the Union victory; and

WHEREAS, Confederate General Robert E. Lee surrendered his Army of Northern Virginia to General Grant at Appomattox on April 9, 1865; General Grant's magnanimous surrender terms won him the gratitude of those who had fought for his armies on the battlefield and helped reunite the nation; his military victory also enabled the emancipation of enslaved peoples; and

WHEREAS, General Grant was twice elected president, in 1868 and 1872; as president, he secured, with Louisiana's support, the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution that prohibits racial discrimination with respect to voting rights; he also signed into law the creation of the Department of Justice, several enforcement acts, and a civil rights act that implemented provisions of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments; and

WHEREAS, President Grant also achieved significant benchmarks in peace, including the successful resolution of disputes with Spain and Great Britain, which had the potential to evolve into war; his signing of the Treaty of Washington helped establish the principle of international arbitration as a means for the peaceful resolution of major international disputes.

THEREFORE, we, Clay Schexnayder and Patrick Page Cortez, do hereby recognize the bicentennial celebration of the birth of President Ulysses S. Grant and do hereby invite the people of Louisiana to celebrate the memory of President Grant, to further educate themselves on his life and legacy, and to advance the highest principles of service to the country which he embodied.

Clay Schexnayder

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Patrick Page Cortez President of the Senate

Patrick Page Cotten