

House Resolution 2098

By: Representatives Gambill of the 15th, Meeks of the 178th, Smith of the 18th, and Scoggins of the 14th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Vernon Lee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, from 1982 to 1985, Vernon Lee served as the drummer for the Rex Nelon
3 Singers of Atlanta, Georgia, formerly the LeFevres, who were inducted into the Gospel
4 Music Association Hall of Fame; and

5 WHEREAS, he was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1959, the beloved son of Ira and
6 Linda Lee; and

7 WHEREAS, Vernon received his first drum from his grandfather in 1969, and his mother
8 bought him his first drum set a few years later; and

9 WHEREAS, he did not receive formal musical training until college, when he studied music
10 and business at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and spent hours practicing his
11 drumming skills; and

12 WHEREAS, he played and made his first recording with a group in 1977 and spent three
13 years with the Rex Nelon Singers, whose accolades include nominations for Grammy
14 Awards and winning numerous Dove Awards; and

15 WHEREAS, during his distinguished career, Vernon Lee performed with such groups as the
16 Templemen Quartet, the Noblemen Quartet, Fay Sims and The Scenicland Boys, The
17 Impacts, The Telestials, Gold City Quartet, and the Rex Nelon Singers; and

18 WHEREAS, during his time with the Rex Nelon Singers, Vernon played at many venues,
19 including the Grand Ole Opry, Opryland, Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Country Music
20 Fan Fare, and the National Quartet Convention, and in 1984, he played at the National
21 Religious Broadcasters convention in Washington, D.C., where President Ronald Reagan
22 addressed the crowd—he later performed for United States Senator and former astronaut
23 John Glenn during his presidential campaign, and Vernon was part of a live recording of a
24 Rex Nelon reunion album and video; and

25 WHEREAS, while touring, he also sat in and played for various groups and artists, including
26 the Cathedrals, the Florida Boys, Jerry Goff, Wendy Bagwell, J.D. Sumner and the Stamps,
27 and others; and

28 WHEREAS, he was inducted into the Gospel Music Association Hall of Fame with the
29 Nelons in 2016 and is an inductee of the 2026 Tri-State Gospel Music Association Hall of
30 Fame for his professional drumming career; and

31 WHEREAS, he was known by other groups and fellow musicians to have the best meter in
32 gospel music during his tenure and for playing "clean"; and

33 WHEREAS, after leaving the group, Vernon served as the drummer at Mt. Paran Church of
34 God in Atlanta, Georgia, for 16 years, and he still plays occasionally and maintains his deep
35 love for music; and

36 WHEREAS, he is united in love and marriage to Maggie and is blessed with two remarkable
37 sons, Ira and Reed.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
39 the members of this body commend Vernon Lee for his outstanding accomplishments and
40 wish him continued success.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
42 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to
43 Vernon Lee.