

First Extraordinary Session, 2008

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 19

BY REPRESENTATIVES TUCKER, ELBERT GUILLORY, ABRAMSON, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, AUBERT, AUSTIN BADON, BOBBY BADON, BALDONE, BARRAS, BARROW, BILLIOT, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARTER, CAZAYOUX, CHAMPAGNE, CHANDLER, CHANEY, CONNICK, CORTEZ, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOERGE, DOVE, DOWNS, EDWARDS, ELLINGTON, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GALLOT, GEYMANN, GISCLAIR, GREENE, MICKEY GUILLORY, GUINN, HARDY, HARRISON, HAZEL, HENDERSON, HENRY, HILL, HINES, HOFFMANN, HONEY, HOWARD, HUTTER, GIROD JACKSON, MICHAEL JACKSON, JOHNSON, ROSALIND JONES, SAM JONES, KATZ, KLECKLEY, LABRUZZO, LAFONTA, LAMBERT, LEBAS, LEGER, LIGI, LITTLE, LOPINTO, LORUSSO, MARCHAND, MCVEA, MILLS, MONICA, MONTOUCET, MORRELL, MORRIS, NORTON, NOWLIN, PEARSON, PERRY, PETERSON, PONTI, POPE, PUGH, RICHARD, RICHARDSON, RICHMOND, RITCHIE, ROBIDEAUX, ROY, SCHRODER, SIMON, SMILEY, GARY SMITH, JANE SMITH, PATRICIA SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, TALBOT, TEMPLET, TRAHAN, WADDELL, WHITE, WILLIAMS, WILLMOTT, AND WOOTON

A RESOLUTION

To commend Pierre Vimont, Ambassador of France to the United States of America, and to welcome him to Louisiana.

WHEREAS, upon the memorable and historic occasion of his first visit to the state of Louisiana, it is appropriate to commend and honor Pierre Vimont; and

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2007, Mr. Vimont was appointed Ambassador of France to the United States of America by President Nicolas Sarkozy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vimont's three-day visit is an inspiring symbol of the deep and abiding friendship between the people of France and the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, prior to his current appointment, Mr. Vimont served as chief of staff to the minister of foreign affairs, a position he had held since 2002; and

WHEREAS, previously, Mr. Vimont was ambassador and permanent representative of France to the European Union from 1999 until 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vimont first joined the foreign service in 1977 and was initially posted to London, where he was first secretary from 1978 until 1981; he then spent the next four years with the Press and Information Office at the Quai d'Orsay; and

WHEREAS, from 1985 until 1986, Mr. Vimont was seconded to the Institute for East-West Security in New York; and

WHEREAS, returning to Europe after this post, Mr. Vimont served as second counselor with the Permanent Representation of France to the European Communities in Brussels from 1986 until 1990 and was subsequently chief of staff to the minister delegate for European affairs from 1990 until 1993; and

WHEREAS, next, Mr. Vimont served as director for development and scientific, technical, and educational cooperation and then for cultural, scientific, and technical relations; he was deputy director general of the entire cultural, scientific, and technical relations department from 1996 until 1997 and then director of European Cooperation from 1997 until 1999; and

WHEREAS, born in 1949, Mr. Vimont holds a degree in law and is a graduate of the Institute of Political Studies and the National School of Administration, and he is also a chevalier of the National Order of Merit; and

WHEREAS, no state in America is more proud of its French heritage than Louisiana, and it is appropriate that a special measure of commendation be extended to Pierre Vimont as he is welcomed with abiding affection and the utmost admiration and respect to the Louisiana House of Representatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Pierre Vimont, Ambassador of France to the United States of America, for his outstanding accomplishments, does hereby express enduring appreciation to him for the tremendous pride, honor, and joy he brings to the state of Louisiana upon his inaugural visit, does hereby sincerely welcome him to the House of Representatives, and does hereby extend to him and to all citizens of the great nation of France best wishes for continued success and happiness in all of their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Pierre Vimont.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES