

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY SENATORS DARDENNE, AMEDEE, BOASSO, MALONE AND MICHOT AND REPRESENTATIVES M. GUILLORY, HAMMETT, MONTGOMERY, T. POWELL, QUEZAIRE, ROBIDEAUX, SCHNEIDER, ALARIO, ALEXANDER, ANSARDI, ARNOLD, BADON, BALDONE, BARROW, BAUDOIN, BAYLOR, BEARD, BOWLER, BRUCE, BRUNEAU, BURNS, BURRELL, K. CARTER, R. CARTER, CAZAYOUX, CRANE, CRAVINS, CROWE, CURTIS, DAMICO, DANIEL, DARTEZ, DEWITT, DOERGE, DORSEY, DOVE, DOWNS, DURAND, ERDEY, FANNIN, FARRAR, FAUCHEUX, FRITH, GALLOT, GEYMANN, GLOVER, GRAY, GREENE, E. GUILLORY, HEATON, HEBERT, HILL, HONEY, HOPKINS, HUNTER, HUTTER, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, JOHNS, KATZ, KENNARD, KENNEY, KLECKLEY, LABRUZZO, LAFLEUR, LAFONTA, LAMBERT, LANCASTER, MARCHAND, MARTINY, MCDONALD, MCVEA, MORRELL, MORRISH, ODINET, PIERRE, PINAC, PITRE, M. POWELL, RICHMOND, RITCHIE, ROMERO, SALTER, SCALISE, SHEPHERD, SMILEY, JACK SMITH, JANE SMITH, JOHN SMITH, GARY SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, STRAIN, THOMPSON, TOOMY, TOWNSEND, TRAHAN, TRICHE, TUCKER, WADDELL, WALKER, WALSWORTH, WHITE, WINSTON, WOOTON AND WRIGHT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the recipients of the 2005 Louisiana Young Heroes Award.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Young Heroes awards are given each year to students in grades four through twelve who have excelled in academics and public service while overcoming adversity in their own lives, and who serve as an inspiration to others through their actions and strength of character; and

WHEREAS, these awards are presented by Louisiana Public Broadcasting and the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge and underwritten by Books-a-Million and Hibernia National Bank; and

WHEREAS, seventeen-year-old Matt Angel, a senior at Airline High School in Bossier City, was one of the top baseball players in the state when he found out he had testicular cancer, and despite five operations, 40 chemotherapy treatments, and 20 radiation treatments, he continued playing baseball and ended up hitting .380 for the season, inspiring everyone around him; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Bell, nine years old and a fourth grader at Carver Primary School in Gonzales, was born with Sickle Cell Anemia, is the current poster child and spokesperson for the Baton Rouge Sickle Cell Foundation, and also raises money for the

Children's Miracle Network and for stuffed animals and other treats for the children at Our Lady of the Lake Hospital in addition to performing in a gospel group with his sister called The Voices of Victory; and

WHEREAS, eighteen-year-old Toni Chimento, a senior at Salmen High in Slidell who was born with spina bifida which has left her a paraplegic with a wide range of other physical problems, is an excellent student, a member of the Salmen High Sunshine Generation, team manager for the girl's basketball team, and an active participant in the Girl Scouts; and

WHEREAS, Krista Drew, a fourteen-year-old freshman at Monterey High School in Monterey, survived the death of her father and other major family problems to excel at Monterey High as a 4.0 student, Freshman Class President, contributing writer for the school newspaper, fundraiser for school activities, and a member of numerous clubs; and

WHEREAS, Joshua Paul LeJeune, an eighth grader at Iota Middle School, despite a progressive hearing loss that will eventually leave him completely deaf, is in the gifted program, serves on the student council, plays in the school band and is a tireless fundraiser for the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Toys for Tots, and other causes, and having achieved the rank of Life, hopes eventually to become an eagle scout; and

WHEREAS, Christopher Rogers, eighteen and a senior at Caddo Magnet High School in Shreveport, despite a partial loss of his vision, has a 4.4 grade point average, is a National Merit Commended Scholar, was chosen to represent Louisiana at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, has done research on experimental chemotherapy to reduce breast cancer tumors, and volunteers with the American Red Cross, Shreveport Green and local churches; and

WHEREAS, fifteen-year-old Lysbeth Shirley, a freshman at Lafayette High School, was born three months premature and has suffered a wide range of health problems including paralysis and hearing impairment, perseveres with an outlook on life that inspires everyone around her, volunteers as a student aide at the Beauregard Parish Library, and will serve as a counselor at the Catholic Deaf Action Center this summer; and

WHEREAS, Jonathan "Chaz" Wilburn, a fourteen-year-old freshman at Live Oak High School in Denham Springs, suffers from Muscular Dystrophy but has not let it stop him

from being a tireless fundraiser and spokesperson for the Muscular Dystrophy Association in the Baton Rouge area; and

WHEREAS, these eight remarkable young people merit a sincere measure of commendation for being named the 2005 Louisiana Young Heroes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby commends the 2005 recipients of the Louisiana Young Heroes Award, expresses gratitude for the extraordinary service they provide in their communities and the contribution they make to the state of Louisiana, and honors the pride, courage, and determination they have shown in their extraordinary accomplishments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to each recipient of the 2005 Louisiana Young Heroes Award.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES