

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 100

BY SENATOR NEVERS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and honor the 2008 Foster Parents of the Year from each region of the state and to acknowledge the valuable contributions they provide to the abused children of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, a happy, productive adulthood begins in early childhood; and

WHEREAS, the family is the primary source of love, identity, self-esteem, support and the very foundation and strength of our communities and state; and

WHEREAS, it is Louisiana's goal to provide each child with a family that will provide a safe, stable, nurturing environment for them to grow up in through which to become productive members of society; and

WHEREAS, there are thousands of children, youth, and other family members served in Louisiana's foster care system because of the abuse and negligence in some birth families; and

WHEREAS, foster families open their homes and hearts to children and youth for the state, thus, playing a vital role in helping foster children and their families to heal and reconnect in healthy ways, when possible; and

WHEREAS, if reunification is not an option for foster children and their birth family, then foster parents continue to serve such children through long-term foster care, adoption or by supporting their transition into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, foster families deserve state and community recognition for their valuable contribution to strengthening family life in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, numerous other Louisiana citizens and foster workers also deserve recognition for volunteering their time, talents, and influence to help foster parents, child placing agencies, and courts to protect children from harm by providing a safe place for them to live; and

WHEREAS, there are individual foster parents who deserve special recognition for their efforts in helping foster children.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and recognize the hard work and dedication of the following foster parents and honors them as the 2008 Foster Parents of the Year: Shatona Davis (Orleans Region), Richard & Sarah Malone (Jefferson Region), James & Jessica Pursifull (Baton Rouge Region), Idora Williams (Covington Region), Wenda McCoy (Thibodaux Region), Hosey & Rose Guillory (Lafayette Region), Dewayne & LaShanda McMahan (Lake Charles Region), Philip & Nancy Hunt (Alexandria Region), Allen & Elaine Spivy (Shreveport Region), and Ricky & Rosa Grisham (Monroe Region).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana expresses its sincere appreciation to these foster parents for their contributions to strengthening family life in Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Department of Social Services, office of community services, and to each of the outstanding 2008 Foster Parents of the Year.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES