

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 136

BY REPRESENTATIVES HUTTER, BARROW, CHAMPAGNE, DOERGE, HILL, ROSALIND JONES, KATZ, LANDRY, NORTON, JANE SMITH, PATRICIA SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, STIAES, AND THIERRY AND SENATORS BROOME, CHEEK, DORSEY, DUPLESSIS, JACKSON, MOUNT, PETERSON, AND QUINN

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Robelynn H. Abadie upon her receipt of a 2010 Women of Excellence Award from the La. Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To commend Robelynn H. Abadie of Baton Rouge upon her receipt of a 2010 Women of
3 Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation.

4 WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Robelynn H. Abadie upon her receipt of
5 a 2010 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus
6 Foundation and to recognize her vital contributions to the citizens of Louisiana as an active
7 and dedicated community servant; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie is the founder of Abadie Financial Services, LLC, an
9 insurance and financial services agency specializing in corporate employee benefit plans;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, as an agent and financial advisor for more than thirty-two years, Ms.
12 Abadie works daily to protect families, help individuals plan for their futures, advise
13 business owners of innovative benefit solutions, and help others preserve their financial
14 dignity; and

15 WHEREAS, for the first fourteen years of her career, Ms. Abadie was a young,
16 single woman with two children, and by drawing from her challenges, she has become a
17 pioneer and advocate for women agents across the nation; and

1 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie was a founding member of the Women Life Underwriters
2 Conference in 1979 and was the charter chairman of the first national women's study group
3 for insurance professionals in 1986, which continues today as an annual event; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie also chaired the development of Friend to Friend, a national
5 mentoring program for female agents that is copyrighted by the Women Life Underwriters
6 Conference and is financially underwritten by several of the largest life insurance companies
7 in the nation; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie is a life and qualifying member of the prestigious Million
9 Dollar Round Table, and she qualifies for the Top of the Table as the only woman from
10 Louisiana who has the distinction of this honor; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1990, Ms. Abadie was presented the Life Underwriter of the Year
12 Award by the Baton Rouge Association of Life Underwriters, and in 1997, she was
13 presented the Young Women's Christian Association Women of Achievement Entrepreneur
14 of the Year Award; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2002, the *Baton Rouge Business Report* honored Ms. Abadie with the
16 Influential Woman in Business Award, and the Louisiana chapter of the National
17 Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors selected Ms. Abadie as its Advisor of the
18 Year for 2003; and

19 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie is a past president of the national Women in Insurance and
20 Financial Services organization and was selected as its Woman of the Year recipient and
21 Diamond Award winner in 2003; and

22 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie has served as a guest speaker on numerous occasions
23 regarding industry issues and career development, and she was the first American invited
24 to speak at the annual conference of the Japanese Association of Insurance and Financial
25 Advisors in Kobe and Tokyo; and

26 WHEREAS, in 2009, Ms. Abadie became the national president of the Association
27 of Health Insurance Advisors, an advocacy association representing the interests of more
28 than two hundred thousand National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors
29 Federation affiliates; and

1 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie's tenure during the tumultuous health care reform efforts
2 was highlighted by her representation of more than a half-million agents and advisors in
3 Washington D.C. at the Health and Employee Benefits Alliance on Capitol Hill; and

4 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie served with great distinction as the chair of the Greater
5 Baton Rouge Women's Council for two years, and she developed and instituted a new
6 program and was the inaugural chair of "Women! A Week Long Celebration"; and

7 WHEREAS, "Women! A Week Long Celebration" is an event that serves women in
8 the Greater Baton Rouge area by focusing on the needs of the community and by
9 coordinating the resources to address those needs, and last year, event activities were
10 attended by approximately twenty thousand women with more than one hundred forty
11 activities of interest; and

12 WHEREAS, in addition to her professional life, Ms. Abadie devotes time to many
13 philanthropic and community efforts, and she is a past president of the Planned Giving
14 Council of Greater Baton Rouge and is becoming the president of the Million Dollar Round
15 Table Foundation in Chicago in the fall of 2010; and

16 WHEREAS, in the immediate days after Hurricane Katrina, Ms. Abadie worked as
17 a pediatric assistant at the Louisiana State University Pete Maravich Assembly Center, and
18 she saw firsthand the needs of many families and offered her office as a clearinghouse for
19 supplies and goods that were donated by agents from across the nation and distributed
20 throughout the area; and

21 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie also led coordination and fundraising efforts for the
22 Renaissance Playground in Baker, Louisiana, in partnership with the Baton Rouge Rotary
23 Club, Rosie O'Donnell's For All Kids Foundation, the city of Baker, Kids Around the World,
24 and other organizations; and

25 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie's impact has been noted both locally and globally with
26 numerous commendations in recognition of her outstanding accomplishments and singular
27 contributions; and

28 WHEREAS, Ms. Abadie has also been included in *Who's Who in Industry and*
29 *Finance*, *Who's Who in American Women*, and *Who's Who of Emerging Leaders*, and she is
30 a graduate of the Greater Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce Leadership Class of 1998 and

1 a fellow of the Office of Government Programs at Louisiana State University, the Life
2 Underwriting Training Council, and the St. Louis Institute of Music; and

3 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation created the
4 Women of Excellence Awards to recognize and honor extraordinary women of excellence
5 across the state for their outstanding achievements and contributions; and

6 WHEREAS, recipients of the Women of Excellence Awards exhibit characteristics
7 of integrity and professionalism, personify excellence in their area of specialty, and are
8 committed to community service to better society as a whole; and

9 WHEREAS, this year, there were seven categories for the Women of Excellence
10 Awards: Business, Culinary Arts, Education, Law and Justice, Volunteerism and Civic
11 Involvement, Young High School Woman of Excellence, and Young Woman of Excellence;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the recipients of the 2010 Women of Excellence Awards are being
14 recognized at the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation's Women of
15 Excellence Awards Gala on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, in Baton Rouge; and

16 WHEREAS, Robelynn H. Abadie received a 2010 Women of Excellence Award in
17 the category of Business; and

18 WHEREAS, Robelynn H. Abadie merits a sincere and heartfelt measure of
19 commendation for her dedication to excellence and her outstanding accomplishments.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
21 commend Robelynn H. Abadie of Baton Rouge upon her receipt of a 2010 Women of
22 Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation, does hereby
23 recognize and record for posterity her singular contributions to the citizens of Louisiana as
24 an active and dedicated community servant, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation
25 for the tremendous honor and pride that she brings to her family, friends, and community,
26 the city of Baton Rouge, and the state of Louisiana.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
28 to Robelynn H. Abadie.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Hutter

HCR No. 136

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