

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 202

BY REPRESENTATIVES MACK, HODGES, POPE, AND SCHEXNAYDER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Sheriff Willie Graves on his retirement after thirty-five years of service in law enforcement, including sixteen years as the sheriff of Livingston Parish.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Sheriff Willie Graves of Livingston Parish on the occasion of his retirement; and

WHEREAS, throughout his thirty-five-year career of dedicated and highly effective service in law enforcement, Willie Graves has served as a deputy and chief criminal deputy and has served with distinction for sixteen years as sheriff of Livingston Parish; and

WHEREAS, despite suffering near fatal injuries when hit by a car while assisting at the scene of an accident in 1979, Sheriff Graves has never wavered from his commitment to protect and serve the people of Livingston Parish; and

WHEREAS, numerous improvements and innovations have been implemented under the direction of Sheriff Graves, including a K-9 division with dogs trained for apprehension and drug detection, a full-time narcotics division, a Special Response Team (SRT) for hostage and other crisis situations, a training center, a sex offender tracking program, and an aviation division with two helicopters for the apprehension of fugitives, search and rescue, and narcotics interdiction; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Graves has led other programs that make a difference in the lives of all citizens of Livingston Parish, including the Christmas Crusade, an annual Christmas toy drive for children in need, and for many years, he played in a band with his fellow officers at numerous community events; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Graves is part of a family of committed community servants, including his father, Odom, who preceded his son as sheriff, his mother, Wynona, who managed the Registrar of Voters Office for many years, his wife, Deputy Elaine Edwards, and their daughter, Whitney; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of the state's communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon law enforcement officers like Willie Graves, an exceptional citizen and an inspiration to all.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Sheriff Willie Graves on his retirement after thirty-five years of service in law enforcement, including sixteen years as the sheriff of Livingston Parish and does hereby extend to him and his family full measures of continued success and happiness in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sheriff Willie Graves.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE