

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 178

BY REPRESENTATIVES SEABAUGH, BAGLEY, GLOVER, JENKINS, MCCORMICK,
PHELPS, AND PRESSLY

COMMENDATIONS: Commends the Honorable David Matlock, chief judge of the
Juvenile Court for Caddo Parish, on the occasion of his retirement

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend the Honorable David Matlock, chief judge of the Juvenile Court for Caddo
3 Parish, on the occasion of his retirement.

4 WHEREAS, the Honorable David Matlock was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, and
5 graduated from C.E. Byrd High School as a National Merit Scholar; he completed his
6 undergraduate studies at Louisiana State University in Shreveport and earned a juris
7 doctorate from Baylor University in 1981; he also received the highest score on the Texas
8 State Bar Exam in 1981;

9 WHEREAS, Chief Judge Matlock's legal experience includes serving as an adjunct
10 instructor of jurisprudence and juvenile justice at Louisiana State University in Shreveport,
11 partner and director at Blanchard, Walker, O'Quin & Roberts, partner at Hargrove, Guyton,
12 Ramey & Barlow, and lawyer at Clark, Thomas, Winters & Shapiro in Austin, Texas; he has
13 been admitted to practice before the United States Supreme Court; he was elected to serve
14 as a judge in the Juvenile Court for Caddo Parish in 1994, and he has served as chief judge
15 of the court since 1999; and

16 WHEREAS, the Juvenile Court for Caddo Parish is one of four special juvenile
17 courts in Louisiana with exclusive original juvenile jurisdiction; the court hears cases
18 regarding juvenile delinquency, Family in Need of Services cases concerning ungovernable
19 children, truants, and runaways, and Children in Need of Care cases where a child has been
20 abused, neglected, or abandoned; and

1 WHEREAS, Chief Judge Matlock always tried to balance the welfare of children
2 with an acute concern for public safety in his decisions; and

3 WHEREAS, during Chief Judge Matlock's tenure, the juvenile court had the state's
4 first Juvenile Drug Court, Family Drug Court, Juvenile Mental Health Court, and Truancy
5 Court; he also oversaw the development of the state's first Sex Trafficking Community
6 Response Team and Specialized Victims Intensive Unit; and

7 WHEREAS, Chief Judge Matlock has been recognized on numerous occasions for
8 his commitment to Louisiana's youth; his honors include the Volunteers for Youth Justice
9 Hero of the Year Award in 2019, Louisiana CASA Judge of the Year in 2005 and 2019,
10 Volunteers for Youth Justice Shining Star Legal Advocate in 2008, and the Together We
11 Can, Catherine Lafleur Legal Advocacy Award in 2020; and

12 WHEREAS, in addition to his incredible professional career, Chief Judge Matlock
13 is a member of Broadmoor Baptist Church, where he has served as a Sunday School teacher,
14 deacon, and member of the board of directors; he was also a member of the Caddo Parish
15 School Board from 1990 until 1994, and he has been a Rutherford House Advisory Board
16 member since 1994; and

17 WHEREAS, the Honorable David Matlock is retiring, effective June 1, 2023, after
18 twenty-four years of dedicated service as chief judge of the Juvenile Court for Caddo Parish;
19 he is most deserving of the highest recognition for his commitment to the welfare of the
20 youth across both Caddo Parish and the state of Louisiana.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
22 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Caddo Parish Juvenile Court Chief Judge
23 David Matlock on the occasion of his retirement and does hereby extend sincerest wishes
24 that he prosper in his retirement and all of his endeavors.

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)]

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Seabaugh

Commends Caddo Parish Juvenile Court Chief Judge David Matlock on the occasion of his retirement.