

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 218

BY REPRESENTATIVES KLECKLEY AND JIM MORRIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Bryan Vincent, Director of the Governmental Affairs Division of House Legislative Services, upon his receipt of the 2013 Southern Legislative Conference Carter/Hellard Legislative Staff Award for Distinguished and Outstanding Service.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Bryan Vincent, Director of the Governmental Affairs Division of House Legislative Services, upon his receipt of the 2013 Southern Legislative Conference Carter/Hellard Legislative Staff Award for Distinguished and Outstanding Service; and

WHEREAS, each year, the legislative service agency directors of the states in the Southern Legislative Conference present this prestigious award to a staff member who has demonstrated a longstanding commitment to the legislative institution and a clear vision and understanding of the role of legislative staffing in representative government, participated in the provision of staff work resulting in systemic public policy reform or institutional improvement, and consistently approached his legislative work with grace and good humor under pressure; and

WHEREAS, for Mr. Vincent, an outstanding legislative staff member who makes very special contributions to the effectiveness and excellence of House Legislative Services as a drafter, a teacher, a mentor, a reviewer, and a storehouse of knowledge, 2013 was not only the year he received this award but marked his twentieth anniversary of joining the staff of House Legislative Services; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Mr. Vincent began his long and productive tenure of service as a legislative analyst for the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs in the Governmental Affairs Division; the wide variety of issues handled by this committee has always presented diverse challenges, and he distinguished himself early on as a superb staffer and drafter; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Mr. Vincent was promoted to the position of Director of the Resource and Infrastructure Division, and in the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, he was at the forefront of working on issues related to the huge and far-reaching impacts of these storms; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, upon the retirement of E. Anne Dunn, the 2003 recipient of the Carter/Hellard Award, Mr. Vincent assumed the position of Director of his original home at the House, the Governmental Affairs Division, and since then, he has served most capably in this capacity, with duties including supervising the staff and work of four of the House's standing committees, advising legislators on various issues including education, local government, ethics, executive branch reorganization, campaign finance laws, and House rules revisions and personally drafting major and complex legislation on these issues; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vincent demonstrates a longstanding commitment to the legislative institution and a clear vision and understanding of the role of legislative staffing in representative government, and he is unwavering in his adherence to the responsibility of legislative staff to strengthen and uphold the legislative institution; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vincent's approach to legislative staffing and to training and mentoring legislative staff is grounded in his own appreciation of the legislative process and its integral relationship to preserving representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vincent is first and foremost a teacher, as one who teaches night classes in the political science department at Louisiana State University, where he earned his doctor of philosophy degree in political science, and especially as a teacher of House staff through his work on revising and tailoring the drafting manual, planning and conducting training for new drafters, and working with individual staff members on complex projects and issues, to name just a few; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vincent is widely respected for his insights, and he plays a key role not only in staff training but in the orientation of new House members, as he is extremely knowledgeable of a wide area of Louisiana government and law and the intricacies of the legislative process and constitutional issues; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vincent consistently approaches his work with grace and good humor under pressure, and he is known for his levelheadedness; he also has a wonderful appreciation of language and is gifted in the use of words in a careful and concise way; and

WHEREAS, House Legislative Services of the Louisiana House of Representatives would not be the organization it is today without Bryan Vincent and his unique and formative contributions to House members and staff, and he merits the commendation, congratulations, and deep appreciation of the Louisiana House of Representatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Bryan Vincent upon his receipt of the 2013 Southern Legislative Conference Carter/Hellard Legislative Staff Award for Distinguished and Outstanding Service and does hereby recognize and record for posterity the pride and honor he brings to the House and to the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Bryan Vincent.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES