

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 54

BY REPRESENTATIVE MARCELLE

A RESOLUTION

To commend John "Lil John" Burkhardt for his leadership of Louisianans for Prison Alternatives and his notable contributions to criminal justice reform in the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, in 2016, a coalition of organizations and individuals from across Louisiana united around their common goal of ensuring the success of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative that was undertaken by Governor John Bel Edwards; and

WHEREAS, the coalition formalized under the banner "Louisianans for Prison Alternatives", or LPA, and John Burkhardt was tasked with coordinating the group; he did so with grace, wisdom, and boundless humor for the subsequent three regular sessions of the legislature; and

WHEREAS, during Mr. Burkhardt's tenure at LPA, the state of Louisiana ushered in historic reforms such as the ten reform measures included in the Justice Reinvestment Initiative package and the repeal of Jim Crow era laws allowing felony convictions based on non-unanimous jury verdicts and depriving convicted felons of their right to vote; and

WHEREAS, while with LPA, Mr. Burkhardt established a powerful network of allies that will outlast any logo and will continue to work to improve the justice system in the years to come.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend John "Lil John" Burkhardt for his leadership of Louisianans for Prison Alternatives and his notable contributions to criminal justice reform in the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to John Burkhardt.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES