

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 85

BY SENATORS PETERSON, BROOME, BUFFINGTON AND DORSEY-COLOMB
AND REPRESENTATIVES BARROW, CHAMPAGNE, HILL,
HODGES, KATRINA JACKSON, NANCY LANDRY, MORENO,
NORTON, SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, THIERRY AND WHITNEY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Madison Julia Matherne of New Orleans on being selected as a recipient of a
2012 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus
Foundation.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Madison Julia Matherne upon her receipt
of a 2012 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus
Foundation and to recognize her vital contributions to the citizens of Louisiana as an active
and dedicated community servant; and

WHEREAS, Madison Matherne is a senior at John Ehret High School where she
serves in several clubs and activities, including the French Club, We the People Debate
Team, National Honor Society, and X the Text initiatives; her present studies are through
the International Baccalaureate Program, which is designed as an academically challenging
and balanced program of education with final examinations that prepare students, aged 16
to 19, for college and life success; and

WHEREAS, she will attend the University of New Orleans to major in journalism;
and

WHEREAS, she currently participates in several walks in her community, including
the Breast Cancer Walks, Crescent City Classics, Christmas in the Oaks, and the Rock 'N'
Roll Race Crew; and

WHEREAS, in February 2009, Madison helped organize a local drive for a program
called Jeans for Teens through DoSomething.org, which promoted teen awareness issues;
and was responsible for setting up donation boxes around the campus at Ehret, where
students could then donate jeans, which were collected and brought to Aeropostale; overall,
256 pairs of jeans were collected and donated to homeless teenagers; and

WHEREAS, in June 2010, Madison traveled with Discovery Student Adventures to

Costa Rica with other volunteer travelers from around the country; she volunteered on a rainforest reforestation project, where she helped to plant ninety-nine trees; she learned many valuable lessons from the wildlife experts who were committed to protecting endangered sea turtles; she had an opportunity through her volunteerism to work alongside scientists helping to rehabilitate exotic wildlife by patrolling beaches at night with head lamps and watching for turtles coming ashore to lay their eggs; a truly life-changing experience for Madison, not only environmentally, but also educationally; and

WHEREAS, in May 2009, she volunteered along with her friends with the Delta Kappa Gamma's "Book and Bunnies" Literacy Project for the Children's Hospital; she helped to make Easter baskets filled with books, stuffed animals and candy, which were delivered to children; she absolutely loved seeing the smiles on the children's faces and knew she was doing something right and rewarding; and

WHEREAS, she also has participated in the "Kids' AT" National Guard Camp as a camper and then as a counselor; the camp is designed for dependents and siblings of the Louisiana National Guard; campers participate in events such as marching and cadence, engagement skills trainers, ropes and confidence courses, swimming and aircraft static displays; and

WHEREAS, over the past four years, Madison's main passion has been the "X the Text" program, which helps bring awareness to the dangers of texting while driving; she displays posters around her school, distributes flyers to students, posts messages to Facebook about new technologies which may help avoid distractive driving, and sends information to legislators about Louisiana laws regarding texting and driving; she has also volunteered with numerous post-Katrina and Gulf Coast rebuilding projects and takes much pride and integrity in volunteering and serving others; and

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

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

WHEREAS, this year, there were seven categories for the Women of Excellence Awards: Business, College Woman of Excellence, Education, Government & Law, High School Woman of Excellence, Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics, and Volunteerism and Civic Involvement; and

WHEREAS, the recipients of the 2012 Women of Excellence Awards are being recognized at the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation's Women of Excellence Awards Gala on Wednesday, May 9, 2012, in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, she was selected to receive a 2012 Women of Excellence Award in the category of Volunteerism & Civic Involvement for her highly productive community activism and service; and

WHEREAS, Madison Julia Matherne merits a sincere and heartfelt measure of commendation for her dedication to excellence and her outstanding accomplishments.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Madison Julia Matherne of New Orleans as a recipient of a 2012 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation, does hereby recognize and record for posterity her singular contributions to the citizens of Louisiana as an active and dedicated community servant, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous honor and pride that she brings to her family and friends, the city of New Orleans, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Madison Julia Matherne.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES