

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 104

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ADLEY, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To commend Bobby E. Smith, PhD, for his outstanding accomplishments and contributions to his fellow citizens.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Bobby E. Smith for his extraordinary achievements as a law enforcement officer, author, public speaker, and citizen; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, when serving with dedication and valor as a Louisiana State Trooper, Bobby Smith was shot and blinded in the line of duty after eleven years as an outstanding law enforcement officer; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Smith generously and perseveringly shares his knowledge, his unique gifts and talents, and the insights gleaned from his life experiences with his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, a widely respected and admired public speaker, Trooper Smith has shared his story throughout the state, the nation, and the world, averaging well over one hundred speaking engagements annually and having spoken to more than one million people throughout his career; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Trooper Smith founded Foundation for Officers Recovering from Traumatic Events (FORTE) with the ongoing goal of providing training and counseling for law enforcement officers, fire fighters, emergency services personnel, and their families going through traumatic events, and in 2008, he established the Trooper Assistance Program, which provides peer support, chaplaincy, and Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) programs; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Smith is the author of two books, *Visions of Courage: The Bobby Smith Story* and *The Will to Survive*, both of which have left an indelible mark on the minds and hearts of all who have read them; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Smith has a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice and a master of education degree in exercise physiology from the University of Louisiana at Monroe and a doctor of philosophy degree in counseling and psychology from Pacific Western University in Los Angeles, California; and

WHEREAS, Trooper Smith has been the deserving recipient of numerous honors and awards on the local, state, national, and international levels, including his receipt of a Military Order of the Purple Heart National Law Enforcement Citation and being named the Kiwanis International Lawman of the Year and United States Trooper of the Year, to name just a few; and

WHEREAS, Bobby Smith is an extraordinary and inspiring individual whose helpful and heroic actions have long gone far and above the call of duty, and he merits a special measure of commendation for the tremendous pride and honor he brings to the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Bobby E. Smith, PhD, for his dedicated service and contributions to his fellow citizens, does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the positive impact he has had on the countless citizens whose lives he has touched, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his steadfast adherence to the highest standards of bravery, honesty, and integrity, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Bobby E. Smith, PhD.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE