

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 116

BY SENATOR PERRY

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the Kaplan Telephone Company on its 60th anniversary.

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Kaplan Telephone Company on the occasion of its sixtieth anniversary.

WHEREAS, on May 16, 2012, Kaplan Telephone Company will recognize and celebrate its sixtieth anniversary; and

WHEREAS, the Kaplan Telephone Company was originally formed in 1916, built and operated by Mr. M. I. Ramsey of Gueydan, Louisiana, who sold the company to Mr. Elliot J. Hebert in 1923, and Mr. Hebert and his family operated the company until 1952; and

WHEREAS, in March 1952, Mr. Lytle C. Turnley bought the Kaplan Telephone Company at which time there were 407 telephones in Kaplan and 70 farmer-owned lines; and

WHEREAS, between 1952 and 1953, the telephone system was improved by changing from the old Magneta Switchboard to a more modernized common battery or "Flash" Switchboard as customers could pick up their phones rather than crank them and subscribership increased to 800; and

WHEREAS, in 1955, the telephone office moved to its present location on Irving Avenue, the company converted to the dial system, and the operator now located a party by number rather than name; and

1 WHEREAS, by November 1956, the conversion was completed and rural lines were
2 built as far as Forked Island and ninety per cent of farmer-owned lines had been converted
3 to company-owned lines; and

4 WHEREAS, Kaplan was one of the first smaller towns to convert to the dial system
5 and telecommunications service expanded to 1,243 telephones in the area; and

6 WHEREAS, during 1957 through 1959, telephone service was completed in Pecan
7 Island and the first "mobile" car telephone was introduced; and

8 WHEREAS, at the end of 1964, there was a complete central office and switching
9 system in Forked Island and telecommunications service had been expanded to 300
10 telephones in that area; and

11 WHEREAS, in the 1970s the company introduced its paging system; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1979 the entire phone system was converted to a digital system and
13 numerous features were added such as Call Waiting, Call Forwarding, and Hot Lines; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1985, telecommunications service was extended to Freshwater City,
15 on the Louisiana Gulf Coast; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1990, Kaplan Telephone Company entered into the wireless
17 communications world with a new company called PACE Cellular Communications which
18 serves all of Vermilion Parish with numerous products such as cellular communications, and
19 voice mail; and

20 WHEREAS, in August 1996, Kaplan Telephone Company began its Internet service
21 called KaplanTel.net and in July 2000, KaplanTel.net subscribers had the option of
22 switching from their current dial-up accounts to new High Speed Digital Subscriber Line
23 (DSL) accounts; and

24 WHEREAS, in 2001, KTC Telecom expanded its fiber optic network into Abbeville
25 to serve business customers with state of the art broadband communications; in 2003, PACE
26 deployed advanced digital communications cellular service ("GSM") throughout its service
27 area and initiated cable television in the form of IPTV, an advanced all IP based television
28 service that provides not only digital television services but also HD TV services; and

29 WHEREAS, in 2005, the company began deploying fiber optic technology to every
30 home in Kaplan; and

1 WHEREAS, recently, KTC Telecom began offering Security & Surveillance
2 technology, an alarm monitoring and camera installation system, to safeguard its customers
3 throughout Vermilion Parish, which crowns KTC as one of the few telecommunications
4 providers in the Gulf South with a holistic and true one stop shop resource for its customers;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, in the near future, KTC and PACE are planning to build 3G & 4G
7 wireless services for its customers which will provide tremendous opportunities for business
8 and residential customers throughout Vermilion Parish.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
10 does hereby commend and congratulate Kaplan Telephone Company on the occasion of its
11 sixtieth anniversary.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
13 Kaplan Telephone Company.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST

Perry

SR No.

Commends Kaplan Telephone Company on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.