

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 141

BY SENATORS CORTEZ, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, FESI, FIELDS, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JACKSON, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, TARVER AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Honorable Mack A. "Bodi" White Jr. on his twenty years of steadfast, loyal, and forthright service in the Legislature of Louisiana, and to express enduring gratitude for his invaluable contributions made on behalf of his constituents of East Baton Rouge, Livingston, St. Helena, and Tangipahoa parishes and the state of Louisiana, particularly during his tenure as a distinguished member of the Louisiana Senate representing District No. 6 and the Louisiana House of Representatives representing District No. 64.

WHEREAS, Senator White is a true public servant who has served with sincerity and determined purpose to improve the state of Louisiana for the last two decades; and

WHEREAS, since taking office in 2004, he has served two terms in the House of Representatives and three terms as a member of the Louisiana Senate, fully using every opportunity to dutifully serve the citizens of his district and the state in an honorable and dedicated manner; and

WHEREAS, Senator White was born and raised in Central, Louisiana, the third of four children, born to Mack Al White Sr. and Carol Thompson White; and

WHEREAS, Senator White graduated from Central High School and went on to earn a bachelor of arts degree in criminal justice from Southeastern Louisiana University and continued with postgraduate studies at Loyola University; and

WHEREAS, over the last forty years, Senator White has shared his life with the woman he's most thankful for, the young lady he met at a Thanksgiving dinner, Robin

Wunstel; and

WHEREAS, he and Robin are the proud parents of three wonderful children: Kimberly, Kristen, and Mackie; and now have four grandchildren, Sydney, Faith, John Mack, and Caroline, who are all his pride and joy; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from college, Senator White provided for his family as a detective for the East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office, a security supervisor for Exxon, and as an owner of a small security business, thus cementing his belief in the value of law and order; and

WHEREAS, while working to provide for his family, Senator White also dedicated his time to actively participating in his children's school activities of which the most memorable were his years serving as a coach for their basketball teams and amassing life lessons of teamwork that would follow him into his legislative career; and

WHEREAS, Senator White's early years as a young professional and a parent laid the groundwork for his legislative career, where he championed several important public policy initiatives including supporting law enforcement, advocating for increases in supplemental pay, creating the Central Community School System, and offering significant school choice alternatives for his constituents in Central and Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, seeing the importance of sporting activities for the youth of our state, Senator White has consistently supported the development of beautiful recreational areas and districts for the families of Louisiana for generations to come through fiscal contributions and serving as President of the Central Area Youth League; and

WHEREAS, Senator White's belief in the importance of public service encouraged his involvement and dedication to serve as a member of the Capital Region Legislative Delegation, the Louisiana Republican Legislative Delegation, and the Louisiana Rural Caucus; and

WHEREAS, Senator White's committee service throughout his legislative career has included serving as chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security and chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Homeland Security, participating in numerous recovery efforts including hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, and the devastating flooding of August 2016; and

WHEREAS, Senator White served on various committees as a member of the House of Representatives including the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, the House Committee on Appropriations, and the House Committee on Judiciary; and

WHEREAS, Senator White's committee assignments in the Senate have included the Senate Committee on Judiciary C, the Senate Committee on Commerce, the Senate Committee on Education, the Legislative Budgetary Control Council, the State Bond Commission, the Senate Executive Committee; and

WHEREAS, Senator White's numerous years of experience perfectly prepared him for the role of chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget; and

WHEREAS, his calm leadership and expertise was instrumental during the unprecedented challenge of the public health emergency and global pandemic that began two months into his term as chairman; and

WHEREAS, Senator White led both committees through challenges unseen by previous legislatures with steady guidance, determination, and compassion for those affected by the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Senator White's vast experience, leadership, and loyalty will be forever remembered by his constituents, legislative staff, and cherished colleagues; and

WHEREAS, as he prepares to begin the next exciting and productive chapter of his life, no doubt contributing to public service, he will hopefully enjoy hunting and fishing at his camp and numerous activities with his grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Senator White merits a sincere measure of commendation for twenty years of dedicated legislative service and his multiple contributions to law enforcement, homeland security, educational excellence, improvements to parks and recreation, and to the Legislature of Louisiana, the citizens of his district, and the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby commends the Honorable Mack A. "Bodi" White Jr. and extends honor and recognition to him for his tenacious dedication to public service and exemplary commitment to improve the state of Louisiana for his constituents, community, family, and friends for generations to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby expresses sincere gratitude to Senator White for his enduring service to the citizens of Louisiana, as evidenced by his achievements as a member of this distinguished body, and hereby extends to him the best wishes of all of his colleagues for continued prosperity and success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Mack A. "Bodi" White Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE