BY SENATOR THOMPSON

A RESOLUTION

To commend Summer Elgourani on winning first place in the 2016 ALS Association Essay contest.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the citizens and the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana recognize the honor bestowed on Summer Elgourani by being selected the first place winner for the 2016 ALS Association Essay contest; and

WHEREAS, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, or ALS, is more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease and May is ALS Awareness month; and

WHEREAS, ALS is a fatal neurodegenerative disease characterized by degeneration of cell bodies of the lower motor neurons in the gray matter of the anterior horns of the spinal cord; and

WHEREAS, each year, eighth graders from all over the great state of Louisiana are asked to write an essay as to why Lou Gehrig believed he was the luckiest man; and

WHEREAS, the essays are scored by volunteer judges and the determination is made as to who will place first, second, and third; and

WHEREAS, this year Summer Elgourani, an eighth grader who attends Robert E.

Lee High School in Monroe, Louisiana, was chosen as the first place winner in the ALS

Association Essay contest; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure on talented, intelligent, dedicated, and determined young people like Summer Elgourani.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize all of Summer Elgourani's remarkable accomplishments, and commends and congratulates her upon winning first place in the 2016 ALS Association Essay contest and wishes her much success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Summer Elgourani.