

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 158

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ADLEY, ALLAIN, 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 the Honorable Lee Joseph "Jody" Amedee III, State Senator, for his years of exemplary public service in the Legislature of Louisiana and to express appreciation for his many contributions made on the behalf of the constituents of his district and the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Jody Amedee is blessed with a quick smile and a firm handshake; he is a statesman and gentleman brimming with self-confidence, a keen sense of humor, and a mastery of the complexities of law and the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, representing portions of Ascension, Livingston, St. James, and St. John the Baptist parishes, Senator Amedee embodies the best qualities of public service; he holds a genuine interest in the needs of his constituency and a personal responsibility to represent them with honesty and integrity; and

WHEREAS, he earned a baseball scholarship to attend Nicholls State University and while in law school, Jody began work as a law clerk for the Louisiana State Senate from 1993-1996; after graduation from Southern University Law Center, he began his legal career as an assistant district attorney for the Twenty-Third Judicial District; and

WHEREAS, while in the office of the district attorney, Jody handled all juvenile cases for Ascension, St. James, and Assumption parishes, designed and implemented the Juvenile Probation Program, coordinated the Ascension Parish Juvenile Drug Diversion Program, and assisted in the establishment of the Ascension Parish Drug Court; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Jody Amedee formed a law partnership with his longtime friend, Andre Gauthier, and established Gauthier and Amedee, a successful law practice located in Gonzales, Louisiana, which has been recognized for excellence by the American Association for Justice on three separate occasions; and

WHEREAS, Senator Amedee became intrigued with the idea of legislative service during his employment at the Senate; in 2003 when Senator Louis Lambert resigned his post, Jody made his decision to "test the water" and seek elective office; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, he served with great diligence on Senate standing committees on Senate and Governmental Affairs, Judiciary C, and Environmental Quality as chairman, on Transportation as vice chairman, and as a member on Agriculture, Commerce, and Natural Resources, the Senate Executive Committee, the select committees on Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs, and the Joint Legislative Committee on Capital Outlay; and

WHEREAS, a leading advocate for juvenile justice and a vigorous proponent of drug court reform, Senator Amedee penned legislation on the issues of criminal law, district attorneys and courts, governmental ethics for public officials and employees, campaign finance, agricultural issues, local government, transportation, and health care; and

WHEREAS, Jody served as chairman of the Southeast Louisiana DWI Task Force, which conducted a special study in conjunction with the Louisiana District Attorneys Association; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, he has been articulate and knowledgeable in the policies affecting the River Parishes; Jody Amedee was effective in securing needed transportation funding to complete a southern route connecting the Mississippi River Bridge at Vacherie with Thibodaux and local funding to procure the Lamar-Dixon Expo Center for the parish of Ascension; and

WHEREAS, Jody Amedee holds affiliation with the National Association of Counsel for Children, Louisiana State Bar Association, American Bar Association, Twenty-Third Judicial District Bar Association, Louisiana District Attorneys Association, National District Attorneys Association, Ascension United Against Substance Abuse Committee, and the National Institute for Trial Advocacy as a faculty member; and

WHEREAS, as a sportsman who enjoys hunting and fishing, Jody is a member of Ducks Unlimited, the National Rifle Association, the National Wildlife Turkey Federation, and the East Ascension Sportsman League; and

WHEREAS, although Jody Amedee is a committed public servant, he is first and

foremost a loving husband to his wife, Jancy, and the proud father of two daughters, Lexie and Allie, and a son, Lee; and

WHEREAS, Jody Amedee has worn the mantle of community service for three productive terms as senator and now looks forward to time dedicated to family; and

WHEREAS, Jody Amedee is a public figure of the highest caliber whose service to the legislature has rated consistent reelection to office, and during this time, he has conscientiously confronted those challenges affecting the citizens of his district with assurance and candor; and

WHEREAS, as Senator Amedee prepares to return to the private sector, he deserves heartfelt commendation for the extraordinary strides he has taken to improve the function of state government while serving as a member of the Louisiana Legislature.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Honorable Lee Joseph "Jody" Amedee III for his faithful public service to this body and does hereby extend to him the best wishes of his colleagues for continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the distinguished legislator, Senator Jody Amedee, Louisiana Senatorial District 18.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE