

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 82

BY SENATOR AMEDEE

A RESOLUTION

To recognize and commend the accomplishments of the staff of the Louisiana Workforce Commission Employment Security Board of Review.

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Workforce Commission Employment Security Board of Review, through its staff, in just under two years, has made substantial and notable improvements in its handling of appeals; and

WHEREAS, in January 2011, the board had 1,688 pending appeals, but only disposed of 8%, or 204 of those appeals with the average age of the 1,688 pending cases being 107 days; and

WHEREAS, to address its backlog, the board hired a new administrator, Dayne Freeman, and employed licensed attorneys to assist the appointed board members with case review, and by July 2011, the end of Mrs. Freeman's tenure, the board had rendered 3,634 decisions and reduced its pending appeals to 890 and average case age to 58 days; and

WHEREAS, on July 18, 2011, Shaydra Guillory became new administrator of the board and under her leadership, the board made further reduction to the time required to handle appeals in that by the end of July 2012, the board had reduced its pending appeals to 200 with the average age of the pending appeals being 15 days; and

WHEREAS, in August 2012, Renita Ward-Williams was hired as administrator of the board and as of January 2013, the board had reduced its month end pending appeals to 49, with the remarkably reduced average age of its pending cases from 107 days in 2011 to being between three (3) to five (5) days with the board having made 9,478 legal decisions in the two year period; and

WHEREAS, according to United States Department of Labor reports, the board has achieved the following recent accomplishments:

September 2012 - Best in the country for higher appeals authority case aging;  
average case age was 5 days.

October 2012 - Best in the country for higher appeals authority case aging, average; case age was 3 days.

November 2012 - Best in the country for higher appeals authority case aging; average case age was 4 days.

December 2012 - Best in the country for higher appeals authority case aging; average case age was 4 days.

January 2013 - Ranked 2nd in the country for higher appeals authority case aging; average case age was 3 days.

February 2013 - Best in the country for higher appeals authority case aging; average case age was 4 days; and

WHEREAS, these accomplishments have occurred due to the tremendous dedication and effort of the staff of the Board of Review, particularly Renita Ward-Williams, Administrative Law Judge-Advanced/Supervisor; Marilyn Grimes, Administrative Law Judge; Madeline Carbonette, Administrative Law Judge; Tiffany Christensen, Administrative Law Judge; Nicole Williams, Clerical Staff; Angela Lawson, Clerical Staff; and Pamela Cannon, Clerical Staff; and

WHEREAS, these accomplishments were also the product of the outstanding leadership of the three administrators, namely Dayne Freeman, current Office of Unemployment Insurance Director; Shaydra Guillory, current Chief of Appeals, and Renita Ward-Williams.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby recognizes and commends the outstanding and dedicated service and remarkable accomplishments of the staff of the Louisiana Workforce Commission Employment Security Board of Review.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Dayne Freeman, Shaydra Guillory, Renita Ward-Williams, Marilyn Grimes, Madeline Carbonette, Tiffany Christensen, Nicole Williams, Angela Lawson, and Pamela Cannon.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE