

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 85

BY SENATORS DUPLESSIS, BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CORTEZ, FESI, FIELDS, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JACKSON, LAMBERT, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, TARVER AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dennis "Maliq" Barnes on his record-setting college scholarship awards and extraordinary achievements.

WHEREAS, Dennis "Maliq" Barnes, a senior at International High School of New Orleans (IHSNO) set a national record by receiving scholarship offers from 185 colleges and universities totaling more than ten million dollars, generating international attention; and

WHEREAS, Barnes has maintained a cumulative high school grade point average of 4.98 at IHSNO and holds a leadership position in the National Honor Society chapter at his school; and

WHEREAS, Barnes is fluent in Spanish and received an official qualification from the Institute Cervantes on behalf of Spain's Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports, and was recently awarded the Jose Luis Baños Award for Excellence in Spanish Language by Maria Page, Honorary Consul of Spain in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Barnes has been dual enrolled at Southern University of New Orleans for the past two years, earning college credits while pursuing his high school diploma; and

WHEREAS, set to graduate from IHSNO on May 24, 2023, Barnes' current plan is to pursue a dual undergraduate degree in computer science and criminal justice; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Adierah Berger, head of school at IHSNO, praised Barnes for his dedication to academics and eagerness to help his peers; and

WHEREAS, Barnes' advice to his peers is to be vigilant and mindful that "The road to a successful future is to plan ahead, network with the collegiate partners, and know that if you can see your vision, you can achieve your goal"; and

WHEREAS, Barnes announced his decision to attend Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, in a ceremony similar to those usually held for five-star athletes; and

WHEREAS, Barnes stated, "I love my city, but I do want to get out and experience things. See different things that I haven't seen before," as he promised to "always" come back home; and

WHEREAS, Barnes also said he hopes to meet new people and "get an understanding and different perspective of the world, have my eyes opened and my perceptions changed by the people around me for the better"; and

WHEREAS, Barnes plans to enroll in Cornell's College of Engineering to pursue a degree in computer science, hoping to have a career in software development.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Dennis "Maliq" Barnes on his extraordinary achievements and record-setting college scholarship offers and does extend best wishes to him in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dennis "Maliq" Barnes.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE