**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 160** 

BY REPRESENTATIVES AUBERT AND GARY SMITH

## A RESOLUTION

To commend Dale Hymel, Jr., for more than thirty years of service to the citizens of St. James Parish.

WHEREAS, Mr. Hymel has been married to the former Debbie Dunn for more than thirty years and has two daughters, Marcia and Erin; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hymel graduated from Lutcher High School and is an alumnus of Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hymel has long been known as the face of St. James Parish and a huge contributor to steady progress of the entire River Region; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, Mr. Hymel entered public service as the St. James Parish finance director, serving twelve years until his election as St. James Parish president in 1992; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Mr. Hymel has consistently explored new ways to improve the welfare of the citizens of St. James Parish and has maintained their trust over the years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hymel's public service contributions include but are not limited to the development of recreational facilities and programs to benefit area youth and enhance the quality of life for St. James Parish constituents, the creation of multiple boards and commissions to involve the public in growth and development, and the improvement of infrastructure through the construction of a number of new buildings and facilities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hymel has maintained close and positive relationships with the St. James Parish Council and all area public officials while effectively leading the parish through multiple natural disasters, most notably Hurricane Katrina and all of its ensuing challenges; and

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WHEREAS, along with other public officials, Mr. Hymel was instrumental in bringing Nucor Steel, a three point four billion dollar investment and one of the largest capital projects in the country, to St. James Parish; and

WHEREAS, through both success and difficulties, Mr. Hymel has remained loyal, compassionate, and a fighter for his family, friends, and constituents; and

WHEREAS, there is much evidence that in his retirement, Mr. Hymel will spend even more time with his wife, Debbie, his two daughters, and numerous grandchildren while also enjoying playing sports, jogging, and attending Louisiana State University football games; and

WHEREAS, as a well-respected leader and after five terms as St. James Parish president, Mr. Hymel leaves a legacy of amazing service, effective leadership, and tremendous achievements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dale Hymel, Jr., for more than thirty years of service to the citizens of St. James Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dale Hymel, Jr.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES