

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 229

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUBUISSON

A RESOLUTION

To commend Camp NORA and Ed Lewis, founder, president, and chief executive officer of Ride of the Brotherhood.

WHEREAS, established in 2013, Ride of the Brotherhood is a nonprofit organization based in Lacombe, Louisiana; Camp NORA (No One Rides Alone), one of two programs run by Ride of the Brotherhood, seeks to support homeless veterans; and

WHEREAS, located on a seventeen-acre parcel near Covington, Camp NORA is a shelter that can provide up to twenty-five veterans with emergency, transitional, and long-term housing; since its opening, referrals have come to Camp NORA from Department of Veterans Affairs clinics, social workers, and family members; and

WHEREAS, Ed "Cowboy" Lewis, a U.S. Air Force and National Guard veteran, whose military positions included security, defense specialist, recruiter, and drill instructor, founded Ride of the Brotherhood as an advocacy group for veterans; he strongly and tirelessly supports his fellow veterans in St. Tammany Parish and the surrounding area; and

WHEREAS, Ed has a heightened awareness that, among veterans, homelessness is usually the result of other problems, such as addiction, post-traumatic stress disorder, or other mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, veterans account for seven percent of the total homeless population in the U.S.; in 2018, nearly thirty-eight thousand veterans experienced homelessness; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize Camp NORA, operating under the umbrella organization, Ride of the Brotherhood, and its founder, Ed Lewis, for dedicated service to the veterans of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Camp NORA and Ed Lewis, founder, president, and chief executive officer of Ride of the Brotherhood; does hereby record for

posterity the support provided to the homeless veteran population in the St. Tammany area; and does hereby extend enduring appreciation to Mr. Lewis for the tremendous honor and pride that he brings to his community and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ed Lewis.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES