

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 130

BY SENATORS JOHNS, ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE AND REPRESENTATIVES FOIL, KLECKLEY AND ST. GERMAIN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Colonel Paul Rainwater upon his retirement from the United States Army and for his accomplishments.

WHEREAS, Colonel Rainwater retired from the United States Army on June 1, 2015, after serving twenty-five years in the Armed Forces of the United States, including eight years in the National Guard; and

WHEREAS, he has acquired several notable accolades during his service to include: the Bronze Star Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Department of Defense Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Badge, and his unit was awarded the Joint Meritorious Unit Award; and

WHEREAS, most recently the President of the United States awarded Colonel Rainwater with the Legion of Merit for exceptionally meritorious service to the Louisiana Army National Guard, culminating as the Strategic Plans Officer; and

WHEREAS, he has distinguished himself with consistent and faithful service to his state and nation, including selection for critical planning coordination and leadership positions that have directly influenced the safety and security of the citizens of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Rainwater has made immense contributions to state and local government; and

WHEREAS, he most recently held the title of Chief of Staff under Governor Jindal's administration, resigned in February of 2014 to pursue a career in the private sector; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Rainwater also served as Commissioner of Administration and as Deputy Chief of Staff under Governor Jindal; and

WHEREAS, prior to his work within the Governor's office, he served as Executive Director of the Louisiana Recovery Authority (LRA) where he served as the authorized representative to the White House special advisory for hurricane recovery, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the U.S. Housing and Urban and Development Disaster Recovery Office; and

WHEREAS, on multiple occasions Colonel Rainwater has provided leadership and on-site situational awareness to the governor and the adjutant general of the state during hurricanes Gustav, Ike, Issac, and the BP oil spill; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Rainwater also served as Legislative Director and Chief of Operations for U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu; and

WHEREAS, from June 2006 to January 2007, he served as Director of Hazard Mitigation and Intergovernmental Affairs at the LRA, where he managed program policies, served as team leader, and coordinated with state and federal agencies to set mitigation priorities; and

WHEREAS, from July 2000 to June 2006, Colonel Rainwater served as the Chief Administrative Officer for the city of Lake Charles; and

WHEREAS, he also formerly served as manager of governmental affairs for Conoco, Inc., Gulf Coast Business Unit in Baton Rouge from June 1998 to July 2000; as manager of public affairs for ARCO Chemical in Lake Charles from 1995 to May 1998; and as administrative aide to the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury in Lake Charles from 1988 to 1996; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his public service duties, Rainwater also served as a colonel with the Louisiana Army National Guard in the Joint Director of Military Support for Disaster Response Unit, and prior to that, served as a lieutenant colonel in the Congressional Liaison Office of the Louisiana Army National Guard and as a lieutenant colonel in the United States Army Reserves working in the Operational Planning Cell of 3rd Army Headquarters, setting up finance operations in Afghanistan, and working as a civil affairs planning officer during Operation Enduring Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Rainwater was part of the Early Entry Module forces deployed after September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, Colonel Rainwater served as the Deputy Adjutant for Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan, where he managed casualty operations, replacement operations, special projects, and planned and executed the largest surge operation since World War II; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Rainwater earned a bachelor's degree in government from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, a master's degree in international relations from Salve Regina University in Rhode Island, and is certified as a local government manager by Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, his career exemplifies a true commitment to the armed forces, state government, and the citizens of the state of Louisiana and the freedoms expressed by the United States of America.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Colonel Paul Rainwater upon his retirement from the United States Army and for his numerous impressive accomplishments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Colonel Paul Rainwater.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES