

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 21

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Ricky Kilpatrick for thirty-three years of exemplary public service and to congratulate him upon his retirement from the LSU AgCenter on October 31, 2018.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana commends Ricky Kilpatrick for the exceptional public service he has provided to the state of Louisiana in the discipline of forestry management and environmental conservation; and

WHEREAS, Ricky Kilpatrick is a timber specialist of the highest order and a true steward of the forested lands placed under his care as area agent for the LSU AgCenter Forestry Division in its Northwestern Region which includes the parishes of Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, and Webster; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kilpatrick is a vital member of the Southern Regional Extension Forestry Office whose purpose is to implement both educational and technical services to increase the efficiency of forestry programs and land use in the southern United States; and

WHEREAS, as a Southern Regional Extension Forester, Ricky Kilpatrick acts as a liaison to coordinate efforts between the entities of the LSU AgCenter, the Louisiana State Department of Agriculture and Forestry, and the United States Department of Agriculture, and to improve cooperation between departmental extension programs and private enterprise ventures; and

WHEREAS, through years of study and exceptional forestry management practices, Ricky Kilpatrick possesses an innate ability to evaluate the biodiversity of a stand of trees, to identify its economic assets and liabilities, to approximate its market value, to appreciate its aesthetic beauty, and to surmise its environmental health and sustainability; and

WHEREAS, reared in Ouachita Parish, Ricky graduated from West Monroe High School and matriculated to Louisiana State University to earn a bachelor's degree in Forestry and later master's degree from the University of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, in his youth, Ricky was involved in 4-H shows, animal husbandry, forestry environments, and wildlife studies, and he continues today as a 4-H educator; and

WHEREAS, both Ricky and his wife, Cindy, teach conservation, agricultural awareness, and 4-H education through youth-targeted field days and career fairs; and

WHEREAS, the Kilpatricks have made it their mission to educate adults and youth about the environment and how Urban reforestation can improve air and water quality within the community; and

WHEREAS, he has received numerous honors that include the 2015 National Extension Forester of the Year awarded by the National Forest Landowners Association; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kilpatrick was also honored with receipt of the 2007 Project Learning Tree Gold Star Award for his promotion of educational activities in natural resources conservation and environmental literacy with hands-on student participation on local forested lands; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Ricky Kilpatrick has upheld the best principles of renewable resources management that involve economic development, bioenergy opportunities, wildlife protection, water management, forestry certification, property rights, and conservation; and

WHEREAS, his collaboration with private and public entities has contributed to effective timber harvesting and the production of a myriad of wood-related end products; and

WHEREAS, over the past three decades Ricky Kilpatrick has witnessed extraordinary new technologies and remedies that have increased the efficiency of timber production in north Louisiana; however, little can compare to the nearness to God he experiences while in the woods; a calm spirituality that brings him ever closer to his Lord and to all of his creations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Ricky Kilpatrick for thirty-three years of exemplary public service and does hereby congratulate him upon his retirement from the LSU AgCenter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express best wishes to Ricky Kilpatrick on all his future endeavors.

SCR NO. 21

ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
Ricky Kilpatrick.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES