

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24

BY SENATOR FOIL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Associations for fifty years of community service.

WHEREAS, the Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Associations (FGBRCA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation governed by an all-volunteer board created on November 1, 1973, to give homeowners a greater voice in government matters affecting their properties; and

WHEREAS, the FGBRCA is one of a handful of umbrella organizations in the United States and grew from a humble beginning of 24 associations to now more than 100 homeowner, civic, townhome, and condo associations, and represents the influential voice of more than 67,000 people; and

WHEREAS, for fifty years, the FGBRCA has had the vision to improve quality of life, enhance property values for homeowners, and preserve the character and integrity of residential neighborhoods in East Baton Rouge Parish; and

WHEREAS, guided by their motto, "Neighbors Helping Neighbors", the FGBRCA has made it their mission to educate member associations on matters of mutual interest or issues impacting their special circumstances and to participate with and represent their members in municipal planning and other parish improvement initiatives; and

WHEREAS, representing tens of thousands of homeowners in East Baton Rouge Parish, the FGBRCA believes that having informed citizen involvement in local government fosters a government that is more responsive to the general welfare of its constituents; and

WHEREAS, input into governmental entities continues to allow the FGBRCA to be a voice of its members by participating in MoveBR, a massive traffic infrastructure project; in the creation of the ordinance governing erection of 5G small cell towers; in the creation

of short-term rental regulations; with the city engineering contractors on the Stormwater Master Plan to formulate a position statement on continued real estate development in the flood plain and recommend certain moratoriums on further development to the MetroCouncil; as a liaison between the Planning and Zoning Commission and association members in matters concerning impact to quality of life and property values in the complex relationship between zoning regulations, real estate development, and homeowners' rights; and

WHEREAS, the FGBRCA makes a statewide impact by taking proactive stances representing homeowners on proposed legislative bills with the potential to negatively impact residential property owners; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, FGBRCA members raised funds to support televising the Planning and Zoning Commission meetings on the public service television channel and to facilitate more transparency in the development and zoning processes; and

WHEREAS, the FGBRCA also provides support by improving the ability of homeowner, civic, and condo associations to effectively govern through its educational programming and by supporting the City-Parish's short-term initiatives through active participation in various advisory and study groups regarding Baton Rouge's charter and the Plan of Government, and its comprehensive land use plans such as Horizon Plan and Future BR; and

WHEREAS, the FGBRCA provides networking opportunities to further the exchange of ideas, opinions, and information to association members via integrative meetings to assist them in seeking solutions to common issues and connecting them to the proper resources for problem resolution; and

WHEREAS, the FGBRCA conducts additional educational opportunities and programs for members on topics ranging from drainage and flooding to hosting city department leaders or personnel to present new City-Parish initiatives and programs or hosting question and answer forums and debates on community issues.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Associations for fifty years of community service.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the FGBRCA Board President, Ed Lagucki.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES