

2024 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 70

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX AND REPRESENTATIVE MYERS

COMMENDATIONS. Commends and congratulates Kim Boudreaux on receiving the prestigious Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice medal and for her leadership of Catholic Charities of Acadiana.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate Kim Boudreaux on receiving the prestigious Pro Ecclesia et  
3 Pontifice medal and for her leadership of Catholic Charities of Acadiana.

4 WHEREAS, Kim Boudreaux, the esteemed chief executive officer of Catholic  
5 Charities of Acadiana, has been honored with the prestigious Papal Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice  
6 medal by His Holiness Pope Francis in recognition of her distinguished service to the  
7 Catholic Church; and

8 WHEREAS, the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice is one of the highest honors bestowed by  
9 the Pope upon lay women and men, symbolizing a profound commitment to the principles  
10 of Christian charity and teaching; and

11 WHEREAS, the medal was instituted by Pope Leo XIII in July 1888 to  
12 commemorate his golden sacerdotal jubilee, with the award becoming a permanent papal  
13 distinction in October 1898 and, until 1993, it was the highest honor that could be obtained  
14 by women; and

15 WHEREAS, in December of 2023, Bishop Douglas Deshotel of the Diocese of  
16 Lafayette, presented this distinguished award to Kim Boudreaux, highlighting her exemplary  
17 dedication to Christian charity and service to the community, and emphasizing her pivotal  
18 role in advancing the mission of Catholic Charities of Acadiana; and

1           WHEREAS, the last time the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice was awarded in the Diocese  
2 of Lafayette was in the 1940s, underscoring the rarity and significance of the recognition for  
3 this award; and

4           WHEREAS, Bishop Deshotel nominated Kim for the award; sending the nomination  
5 and letter of approval to the Vatican where it was handled by the Secretary of State of the  
6 Holy See before being submitted to Pope Francis for his signature; and

7           WHEREAS, as a young adult, Lafayette native Kim Boudreaux felt a very distinct  
8 calling to live a life of service to people that were suffering; and

9           WHEREAS, Kim sold all her possessions and traveled abroad to work as a  
10 missionary spending much time in her 20s in Mexico, India, Thailand, and Malaysia; and

11           WHEREAS, in fall 2001, Kim returned home to Lafayette and volunteered at  
12 Catholic Charities of Acadiana's St. Joseph Diner and "just fell in love with the  
13 organization's work"; and

14           WHEREAS, Kim started with an entry-level job with Catholic Charities of Acadiana  
15 when she felt God calling her to serve and decided to stay with the organization as long as  
16 God would have her; and

17           WHEREAS, in 2005, Kim began working as the director of Catholic Charities of  
18 Acadiana and passionately describes her work as "having the opportunity to show kindness  
19 to people in the moments they need it the most"; and

20           WHEREAS, Kim Boudreaux's leadership at Catholic Charities of Acadiana has been  
21 instrumental in organizing charitable efforts, focusing on upholding the sanctity of human  
22 life and assisting the most vulnerable members of society; and

23           WHEREAS, Catholic Charities of Acadiana, under Kim Boudreaux's guidance, has  
24 tirelessly carried out the corporal works of mercy, embodying the Gospel's call to  
25 compassion and service to those in need; and

26           WHEREAS, Kim Boudreaux's extensive experience in foreign missions, including  
27 her work with Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity, has enriched her leadership at  
28 Catholic Charities of Acadiana and inspired a profound commitment to serving the people  
29 of Acadiana; and

30           WHEREAS, the work of Catholic Charities of Acadiana includes providing essential

