

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 85

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Shreveport eighth-grader, Porter May, upon selection as Private School Middle School Student of the Year for 2016 and to recognize his extraordinary accomplishments.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the energy, intelligence, and achievement of Porter May, a dynamic young student from the First Baptist Church School (FBCS) of Shreveport, who has demonstrated superb acumen in academic achievement, leadership ability, community service, good character, and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, middle school finalists for the Student of the Year competition are chosen from nominees representing all six regions of the state and composed of both public and private school students; the process requires submission of a resume of accomplishments, samples of essay writings, and interviews conducted by selection committee members who assess the communication and critical-thinking skills of each candidate; and

WHEREAS, at the end of the regional competition, Porter May was named Private School Middle School Student of the Year among the nonpublic school nominees and qualified as a finalist in the statewide competition for Middle School Student of the Year sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, on April 13, 2016, the finalists were announced and recognized at an awards ceremony held at the Louisiana State Museum in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Porter has acquired numerous accolades for his academic endeavors that include a scholarship from the National Junior Honor Society, and he has participated in various extracurricular activities as president of the Patriot Promise Service Club, vice president of the FBCS Student Council, and as a member of the Leadership Team of the

Fellowship of Christian Athletes; and

WHEREAS, Porter has a much lighter side that embraces participation in school musical productions and team sports such as basketball; and

WHEREAS, as a volunteer, Porter takes an active role in a variety of organizations and activities that promote community stewardship such as Providence House, Lighthouse After School Program as a tutor, the Northwest Louisiana Food Bank, Operation Christmas Child, Maggie Lee for Good, the Gingerbread House, Holy Angels, and the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Awareness Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Porter May challenges himself to achieve and grow as an individual; as an active member of Boy Scouts of America since fifth grade, he holds the elected position of Senior Patrol Leader and the rank of Star; achievement of Eagle Scout is just two ranks away; and

WHEREAS, Porter is the son of Brooks and Mary Emily May, who, along with a younger sister, Elizabeth, are members of First Methodist Church of Shreveport and together the family fulfilled a missionary trip to Peru; and

WHEREAS, Porter May is an especially gifted young man who acts as a model student; he seeks out opportunities to inspire Louisiana youth, sets goals, works hard, and generates enthusiasm among his peers to live up to their full potential; and

WHEREAS, his future plans include enrollment at C. E. Byrd High School next fall, and pursuit of an advanced collegiate degree in either finance or medicine; and

WHEREAS, the future prosperity of the state of Louisiana, the strength of its communities, and the overall vitality of American society are in great measure dependent upon extraordinary young men like Porter May who lead by example; and

WHEREAS, Porter's visionary leadership exemplifies integrity, character, inspiration, imagination, civility, and service, as delineated in a quote from John Quincy Adams, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader"; and

WHEREAS, Porter May is a talented scholar and citizen with a maturity of mind far beyond his years, who demonstrates a commitment to academic excellence that is truly commendable, and who is most deserving of this recognition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Porter May of First Baptist Church School of Shreveport, upon selection as the Private School Middle School Student of the Year for 2016; does hereby recognize his singular contributions to the betterment of his school, community, and state; and does hereby extend to him enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride that he brings to his family, school, church, the city of Shreveport, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby wish for Porter May continued success and happiness in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Porter May and Dr. James Gillespie, Head of School for the First Baptist Church School of Shreveport.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES