

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY SENATORS CORTEZ, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, FESI, FIELDS, FOIL, HARRIS, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JACKSON, JOHNS, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PEACOCK, PETERSON, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, TALBOT, TARVER, WARD, WHITE AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Secretary of the Senate Yolanda J. Dixon on being selected as one of the 2021

Influential Women in Business by the *Greater Baton Rouge Business Report*.

WHEREAS, each year the *Greater Baton Rouge Business Report* selects and honors women from throughout the Capital Region who have distinguished themselves and influenced others through their professional and community lives; and

WHEREAS, the honorees are selected from nominations received and evaluated by a panel of more than fifty community and business leaders as to the nominee's character, credentials, and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the class of 2021 honorees include New Orleans native, Secretary of the Senate Yolanda J. Dixon; and

WHEREAS, after a brief time working as an attorney with the Louisiana Department of Justice, Secretary Dixon began her career with the Senate in 1988 as committee staff; she was promoted to senior staff in 1995; and in 2004, she was appointed First Assistant Secretary of the Senate; and

WHEREAS, in January of 2020, Mrs. Yolanda J. Dixon was elected by the members of the Senate as the twenty-eighth Secretary of the Senate since 1812, and she is the first woman and first person of color elected by the body to that position; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as First Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Dixon was recognized by her peers from across the United States as an elected associate member and associate vice president of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries (ASLCS), as a recipient of ASLCS' 2018 Legislative Staff Achievement Award, and as a

member of the National Conference of State Legislatures' Masons' Manual Commission; and

WHEREAS, Secretary Dixon is as dedicated to her community as she is to her career as evidenced by her service in numerous organizations and on nonprofit boards; and

WHEREAS, Yolanda began volunteering in the community while attending University of Colorado at Boulder as an undergraduate through her college sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, she added to her volunteering efforts by becoming an active member of the Junior League of Baton Rouge to which she was elected President in 2002; the first woman of African decent elected to that position in the league's seventy year history, and has since been followed by several other women of color to that position; and

WHEREAS, following her passion for the arts and improving the quality of life in her community, Yolanda has also served two terms as chair of the board of directors of the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, as president of the Baton Rouge Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, and as a member of the East Baton Rouge School System Tax Oversight Committee and the board of Woman's Hospital in Baton Rouge, and she is currently serving as an officer on the board of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Secretary Dixon makes a personal effort daily to help people in need and to encourage young women to take charge of their destinies and to own their life journeys, believing that of one "to whom much is given, much is required"; and

WHEREAS, as anyone who has worked with her at the Senate or volunteered or served with her in the community can attest, her intellect, wit, grace, work ethic, and compassion for others are both inspiring and motivating; and

WHEREAS, Secretary Dixon is truly deserving of recognition and honor for her character, credentials, and accomplishments that make her one of the greater Baton Rouge area's most influential women in business and a source of pride for her family, friends, and colleagues at the Louisiana Senate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Secretary of the Senate Yolanda J. Dixon on being selected as one of the 2021 Influential Women in Business by the *Greater Baton Rouge Business Report*.

**SR NO. 109**

**ENROLLED**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the Senate Yolanda J. Dixon.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE