

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Rhyn L. Duplechain upon the occasion of his retirement as assessor of St. Landry Parish after nearly thirty-four years of dedicated service in the assessor's office.

WHEREAS, Rhyn Duplechain has been honored and privileged to serve the citizens of St. Landry Parish as assessor with unwavering dedication, extraordinary professionalism, and true compassion; and

WHEREAS, he was first elected assessor on November 4, 1986, and from that day forward sought to make things better for the office and the people of the parish; and

WHEREAS, the job of assessor is unique as every four years, assessors are required to revalue all property for tax purposes, a process which is complicated and takes an extended period to complete; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as assessor, Rhyn Duplechain brought a broad range of improvements, particularly, technological advancements to the office; and

WHEREAS, using modern technology and working within budget, Rhyn Duplechain has made the office one of the leading assessor offices in the state; and

WHEREAS, through his leadership, the assessor's office offers several special services including an online mapping system available to the public; and

WHEREAS, he has worked with homeowners, small business owners, farmers, and cattlemen to help achieve the American Dream of owning property; and

WHEREAS, Rhyn Duplechain worked with corporations to promote economic growth and a fair property tax system which encourages growth and brings more jobs to the parish; and

WHEREAS, as a leader and president of the Louisiana Assessor's Association in 2000, he worked tirelessly to protect the homestead exemption and other tax breaks that property owners enjoy today; and

WHEREAS, prior to becoming assessor, he worked in the private sector for over

twenty years with Florida Gas Company and Canal Refining Company which helped prepare him for the job of assessor; and

WHEREAS, he was a member of the Louisiana National Guard on active duty for six years; and

WHEREAS, Rhyn Duplechain served on the Opelousas City Council from June 1974 to November 1986, during which he was mayor pro tempore for two years; and

WHEREAS, he served on the Louisiana Technical College Foundation and the South Louisiana Community College Foundation board of trustees for ten years, eight of those years as president; and

WHEREAS, Duplechain was a Scout Master for the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 30, and is a member and past president of the Opelousas Kiwanis Club, American Legion Post 45, the St. Landry Cattleman's Association, the St. Landry Parish Farm Bureau, the St. Landry Catholic Church, and the Knights of Columbus; and

WHEREAS, the father of three children and grandfather of five, he was selected to "Who's Who in the Business and Professional Citizens", the recipient of the Elks "Citizen of the Year" in 2015, and was presented the "Lifetime Achievement Award" by the members of the Louisiana Assessors' Association in 2020; and

WHEREAS, an even-tempered, level-headed public servant, Rhyn gained a reputation throughout his career as a man who was always concerned about the well-being of the citizens of St. Landry Parish and his office co-workers; and

WHEREAS, though his talents and determination will no doubt be missed by all those who had the honor of working with him, he will still be involved in his community as St. Landry Parish moves forward economically and with the technology of our modern age; and

WHEREAS, Rhyn L. Duplechain's career clearly made a difference in the lives of the people of St. Landry Parish and his service is sincerely appreciated.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Rhyn L. Duplechain upon the occasion of his retirement as assessor of St. Landry Parish and best wishes are extended to him for many happy and healthy years in retirement.

SR NO. 11

ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Rhyn L. Duplechain.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE