

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 126

BY SENATOR NEVERS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Carol "Fran" Nevers on being named the Louisiana CASA DCFS Staff Member of the Year, and for the leadership, spirit of collaboration, and compassion demonstrated by her consistent service over two decades to the abused and neglected children of Washington and St. Tammany Parishes.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Carol "Fran" Nevers has been employed by the Office of Community Services in Washington Parish and has worked in Louisiana's foster care system for more than two decades, serving as a Foster Care Case Manager, a Foster Care Supervisor and currently as Program Operations Manager (POM) for Washington Parish and for two Foster Care units in St. Tammany Parish; and

WHEREAS, Carol "Fran" Nevers has long demonstrated a unique ability to work with a specialized caseload of some of the most difficult cases in the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) where children are most at risk of not being reunified with their parents; and

WHEREAS, Carol "Fran" Nevers has ensured that Court Appointed Special Advocates, or "CASA" volunteers, regularly are invited to Office of Community Services staffing and team conferences, and that CASA volunteers are offered the opportunity to express their observations, concerns and recommendations on behalf of the children they serve; and

WHEREAS, CASA volunteers report that judges in the 22nd Judicial District Court recognize that where Carol "Fran" Nevers is involved in a Child in Need of Care (CINC) case before that court, DCFS staff members and CASA volunteers have thoughtfully discussed ahead of time any disagreements as to the best interest of that child in that case, and have endeavored to collaborate prior to bringing the case before the court; and

WHEREAS, Carol "Fran" Nevers' singular gift of collaboration particularly shines through when there is a change in DCFS policy, in that "Fran" reliably works with the Youth Service Bureau CASA staff members to explain how and why the changes are being implemented; and

WHEREAS, Carol "Fran" Nevers has consistently demonstrated a fair-minded approach towards solving problems that may arise in the foster care system, and has been sincere and dedicated to her responsibilities and to creating and maintaining a positive working relationship between DCFS staff members and CASA volunteers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Carol "Fran" Nevers on being named the 2015 Louisiana CASA DCFS Staff Member of the Year and for the leadership, spirit of collaboration, and compassion demonstrated by her consistent service over two decades to the abused and neglected children of Washington and St. Tammany Parishes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Carol "Fran" Nevers.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE