

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 130

BY SENATOR PERRY

A RESOLUTION

To commend Gerald P. Breaux for more than thirty years of service with the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission and to congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, Gerald P. Breaux has served as the executive director of the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission since 1981; and

WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Northside High School and the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, he is active within the Lafayette community and serves on several civic boards and commissions, including as a member of the board of directors of the Downtown Lafayette Unlimited, a member of the Louisiana Tourist Development Commission, and a founding board member of Festival International de Louisiane; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Breaux has been a member of the Louisiana Travel Promotion Association since 1981, serving on its board of directors, as well as serving as its president and chairman of the board; and

WHEREAS, he has been a member of the Society of American Travel Writers since 1993, holding several offices within that organization, including treasurer, chairman of the membership directory sales committee, and on the board of directors; and

WHEREAS, he has received numerous awards and accolades, including the Lafayette Jaycees Distinguished Service Award and the Society of American Travel Writers Blake-Whiddon Award, which is the central state chapter's most prestigious award honoring an associate member who has accomplished outstanding achievements; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Breaux was a graduate of the International Association of Convention & Visitor Bureaus Certified Destination Management Executive Program in 1999 and became a fellow in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, he was instrumental in creating Cajun Zydeco as a new category for the Grammy Awards; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Gerald P. Breaux, the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission became the first tourist commission to be awarded accreditation from the Destination Marketing Accreditation Program; and

WHEREAS, completion of the Cajundome and Convention Center occurred, and an increase in the number of hotel rooms in the Lafayette area increased by several thousand, during Mr. Breaux's administration; and

WHEREAS, several awards were bestowed upon the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission under the direction of Mr. Breaux, including the Louey Award for Bureau of the Year in 2010, and the Shining Example Award from the Southeast Tourism Society in 1989 and 1992; and

WHEREAS, during his administration, Lafayette was named the Tastiest Town of the South by Southern Living magazine, and the Best Food City by Rand McNally Best of the Road® Rally; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of Mr. Breaux, the budget of the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission grew from under three hundred thousand dollars to more than three million dollars and it hosted the annual meetings of the Society of American Travel Writers Canadian chapter, the Atlantic-Caribbean chapter, the Central States chapter on two occasions, the Western chapter, and the Freelance Council; and

WHEREAS, the vitality of the city of Lafayette, Acadiana, and the state of Louisiana depend in great measure upon the tireless dedication and service of people like Gerald P. Breaux; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Breaux will remain an inspiration to his fellow citizens for the vital contributions he has made in his long career as executive director of the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission, and he merits the highest commendation and most sincere congratulations for his tireless promotion of the city of Lafayette, Acadiana, and the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Gerald P. Breaux for more than thirty years of service with the

Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission and for his many significant achievements, recognize and record for posterity the deep and abiding appreciation of his fellow citizens for his dedication to the city of Lafayette and the state of Louisiana, and extend to him best wishes for continued success in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Gerald P. Breaux.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE