

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 132

BY SENATOR JOHN SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Leesville High School Lady Cats for reaching the Class 4A state softball championship game.

WHEREAS, after starting the season with a record of zero wins and seven losses, the Lady Cats won eighteen of their final twenty-four games, making their way through the Class 4A bracket as the number eleven seed and eliminating two higher-seeded teams, the DeRidder High School Lady Dragons and the Neville High School Lady Tigers, en route to the championship game; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Lady Cats, Chelsi Alexander, Elaine Blanco, Hannah Doyal, Lucki Gil, McKenna Goodwin, Camille Hamilton, Ashley Hoecker, Karsen Kreps, Haley MaGee, Destinee Miller, Tajai Mccullom, and Ali Williams, played an impressive regular and postseason, and earned the opportunity to compete for the state title; and

WHEREAS, trailing by four runs and down to their last four outs against the Teurlings Catholic High School Lady Rebels, the Lady Cats made their run at the title; and

WHEREAS, after seniors Haley MaGee and Ashley Hoecker reached base via the walk and getting hit by a pitch, respectively, they advanced sixty feet to get into scoring position after Hannah Doyal hit a sacrifice fly; and

WHEREAS, Elaine Blanco hit a fly ball out to center field to bring in Haley MaGee, and Ashley Hoecker scored when teammate Ali Williams reached base on an error, thereby cutting the deficit to two runs; and

WHEREAS, Chelsi Alexander then reached base on another error, bringing junior Tajai Mccollum to the plate; and

WHEREAS, after working the count full, Mccollum laced a two-run double to the

fence in left center field, allowing Ali Williams and Chelsi Alexander to cross the plate and tie the game six to six; and

WHEREAS, senior pitcher McKenna Goodwin retired the side in the bottom of the sixth inning, giving the Lady Cats an opportunity to take the lead in the seventh inning; and

WHEREAS, the Lady Cats got a runner on base with one out as Haley MaGee singled, but she did not get any further as the Lady Rebels' pitcher retired the side; and

WHEREAS, in the bottom of the seventh inning, the Lady Rebels scored one run to secure the victory; and

WHEREAS, the distinguished team performance of the entire Leesville High School Lady Cats softball team throughout the regular season and the postseason earned them a place in the Class 4A championship title game; and

WHEREAS, the amazing accomplishments of the team could not have been achieved without the guidance and skills of head coach Kelly Kaiama-Goodwin, assistant coach Joe Sowell, and manager Haley Mcconathy, as well as all of the other individuals who have contributed to the success of the Lady Cats softball program; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Legislature of Louisiana wish to recognize the coaches, the manager, and the extraordinary young women of the Lady Cats on their regular and postseason play, and the opportunity to compete for the championship title, which was earned through teamwork, determination, and dedication to the sport of softball.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate the players and coaches of the Leesville High School Lady Cats softball team on an impressive and memorable season, and on competing in the Class 4A Girls High School State Softball Championship game.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the head coach of the Leesville Lady Cats, Kelly Kaiama-Goodwin, and to the principal of Leesville High School, Renita Davis.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE