

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 133

BY SENATOR BROWN

A RESOLUTION

To commend Desire "Peanut" Alleman Jr. on receiving the James O. Modisette Award for Outstanding Louisiana Public Library Trustee for 2016.

WHEREAS, the James O. Modisette Award is presented annually by the Louisiana Library Association to a public library trustee to commemorate distinguished service to a Louisiana public library board; and

WHEREAS, Desire "Peanut" Alleman has worked diligently to improve library services in Assumption Parish, primarily through his service on the parish board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alleman was appointed to the Assumption Parish Library Board of Control in July 2006, and has served as president of the parish board since his election to that position in January 2012; and

WHEREAS, as part of his exceptional service to libraries in Assumption Parish, Mr. Alleman has worked tirelessly to establish a new branch library in Belle Rose, which will open in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alleman has also served as chairman of the Assumption Parish Library Festival; and

WHEREAS, the Assumption Parish board oversees a main branch in Napoleonville, Louisiana and branches in Labadieville, Pierre Part, and Bayou L'ourse in Morgan City, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Assumption Parish is the threshold to the Atchafalaya Basin and the western area of the parish is a labyrinth of bayous and swamps that hamper travel between towns and cities of the parish, which makes the establishment of branch libraries more critical to provide access to library services in the parish, realities that drove Mr. Alleman's effort on behalf of the new branch in Belle Rose; and

WHEREAS, the first library in Assumption Parish, called the Napoleonville circulating library, opened in 1900, but interest in a library waned and it closed early in the twentieth century; and

WHEREAS, after years without a library in the parish and various attempts to reestablish a library proved unsuccessful, eventually, a library was to be opened on a trial basis in 1968, but there remained serious concerns about permanent funding; and

WHEREAS, within the first week that the new library was open, twenty-seven percent of the population of the parish had registered to borrow books at the library, after which neither the commitment of the people to the library nor the funding of the library for the future were in question; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alleman's commitment to providing an exceptional public library system in Assumption Parish has been the hallmark of his more than ten years of service on the library board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Alleman's efforts did not go unnoticed and resulted in the extraordinary honor of being tapped for the Modisette Award; and

WHEREAS, as a lifelong resident of Assumption Parish, Mr. Alleman has been a witness to and a driving force for the growth of the library system and for the establishment of that system as a priority for all the people of Assumption Parish.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Desire "Peanut" Alleman Jr. on receiving the James O. Modisette Award for Outstanding Louisiana Public Library Trustee for 2016.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Desire "Peanut" Alleman Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE