

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 184

BY SENATOR PERRY

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Timala "Timmie" Melancon for receiving a 2012 Image Award from the Louisiana Association of Educators, her outstanding teaching career and many years of exemplary service, and her lasting contributions to public education in Vermilion Parish and Louisiana upon the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, in May, 2012, the Louisiana Association of Educators presented Timala "Timmie" Melancon, teacher at Kaplan High School and coach of the school Speech and Drama Team, with an Image Award, which honors outstanding educators who have advanced the image of teachers, ESPs and administrators within Louisiana's public schools; and

WHEREAS, during the 2011-2012 school year, she was also selected as the High School Teacher of the Year in Vermilion Parish, marking the second time she had received the award, the first coming in 1995, and was also selected by the Louisiana High School Speech League as the 2011-2012 Speech Coach of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Timala Melancon, is a Gueydan native who graduated from Gueydan High School in 1971 and began pursuit of a degree in choreographic design at the University of Southwestern Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, after marrying and beginning a family, she returned to college and in 1982, graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech Education and, in 1996, earned a Master of Arts Degree in English allowing her to qualify to participate in Louisiana's Dual Enrollment Program; and

WHEREAS, the first four years of her teaching career were at Rene Rost Middle School, switching from eight to seventh grade reading; and

WHEREAS, in 1986 she transferred to Kaplan High School and during her twenty-five year employment there, taught a wide array of courses including English I, II,

III and honors; Speech I, II, and III; Theatre I, II, III, and advanced; competition speech, and intervention; and

WHEREAS, in addition, for well over a decade, the name "Timmie Melancon" has been synonymous with the Kaplan High Speech and Drama Team which she created and developed; and

WHEREAS, her contributions to art and culture extends well beyond the classroom as she founded the Vermilion Players in 1996; and

WHEREAS, through and with her positive guidance, teaching, and coaching many formerly shy students became comfortable with speaking in front of an audience and opportunities were provided for young students to witness excellent and entertaining musical theatre featuring singing, acting, and dancing; and

WHEREAS, Timmie Melancon summarized her responsibility and goal as a teacher and a coach as follows: "It is my responsibility as an educator to prepare young people for life after they leave my campus, and that is where I become passionate. The most effective teaching tool for anyone is the use of humor and I can use humor 'like nobody's business.' Laughter is the key to life, and learning to laugh at one's self is a key to success and happiness. Once a student learns to enjoy life, I can begin to instill in him the tools he needs to be poised, articulate, and well spoken. I can teach any student to use their energy and enthusiasm to achieve any goal simply by making them believe that if they work hard enough, it has to happen."; and

WHEREAS, Timmie Melancon is married to Lonnie Melancon and she has four sons: Ben and Jeff Suire, and Rod and Zach Melancon and the Melancon's also have five grandchildren.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Timala "Timmie" Melancon for receiving a 2012 Image Award from the Louisiana Association of Educators, her outstanding teaching career and many years of exemplary service, and her lasting contributions to public education in Vermilion Parish and Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED best wishes are hereby extended for continued success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

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ENROLLED

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
Timala Melancon.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE