

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 185

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LONG, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, PEACOCK, PETERSON, PRICE, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Honorable Dan W. "Blade" Morrish and express sincere gratitude for his outstanding service to Acadia, Calcasieu, Cameron, and Jefferson Davis parishes, as well as to the entire state of Louisiana, during his twenty-four years as a legislator.

WHEREAS, Dan "Blade" Morrish is the epitome of the phrase "public servant" and has worked tirelessly during his six terms in the Louisiana legislature, first as a state representative and then as a state senator, to serve all of Louisiana's citizens equally, fairly, and compassionately; and

WHEREAS, Blade is a lifetime resident of southwest Louisiana and a graduate of Jennings High School and McNeese State University; and

WHEREAS, it was while he was attending and working his way through college to earn his bachelor's degree in agriculture that he met the love of his life, Kathy Vidrine; and

WHEREAS, the marriages of their son, Chris to Courtney Conner, and daughter, Erin to Doug Boudreaux, have gifted him with what he considers to be the world's greatest grandchildren, Maddox and Maggie Morrish and Brayden and Brody Boudreaux; and

WHEREAS, for more than twenty-five years, Blade owned and operated the family hardware store in Jennings where he saw firsthand the needs of his community; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to his family and faith, his desire to serve his community, and his love for his state guided his decision to seek elected office; and

WHEREAS, his continual focus on creating a better Louisiana and putting people over politics has merited his consistent reelection to office since 1996; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in the legislature, he intentionally worked to hear all sides of an argument, to treat all stakeholders with respect, and to work across party lines to accomplish goals to benefit the people of his district and the state; and

WHEREAS, he has served on both the senate and house insurance committees where he crafted legislation to protect the rights of both the insured and the insurance companies, earning him the respect of legislators across the country who have twice elected him president of the National Council of Insurance Legislators; and

WHEREAS, as an avid duck hunter and outdoorsman, he passionately worked to protect and restore our coastal areas and wetlands by serving on the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, the Senate Select Committee on Coastal Restoration and Flood Control, the House Committee on Agriculture, Forestry, Aquaculture, and Rural Development, the Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal Protection, Restoration, and Conservation, and the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority; and

WHEREAS, while he was reluctant to accept the chairmanship of the Senate Education Committee, once appointed, he embraced the role and worked with great grace and fairness to ensure the upholding of the constitutional requirement of designing and promoting an educational system that provides every individual an equal opportunity to develop to his full potential; and

WHEREAS, his quick wit and affable personality have made him a friend of many and an enemy to few, and his protection of the downtrodden has made him known as a true gentleman and a model statesman to all.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Honorable Dan W. "Blade" Morrish and express sincere gratitude for his outstanding service to Acadia, Calcasieu, Cameron, and Jefferson Davis parishes, as well as to the entire state of Louisiana, during his twenty-four years as a legislator.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Dan W. "Blade" Morrish.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE