

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 200

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

A RESOLUTION

To commend Margaret "Peggy" Joyce Broussard, administrative secretary for the Senate Fiscal Services Division, for her distinguished career and exemplary public service to the state of Louisiana and to congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement from the Louisiana State Senate after twenty-nine years of service.

WHEREAS, at this time, the membership of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana wishes to commend Peggy Broussard for the years of invaluable service she has provided to this body; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Broussard was born in Lafayette, Louisiana, and at the age of five announced proudly to her family that she wanted to be a "sassytary" (secretary) as she busily gathered loose sheets of paper and pieces of mail and carried it around her home; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Broussard attended St. Paul Elementary School and graduated from Holy Rosary Institute; and she later attended the University of Louisiana Lafayette majoring in Secretarial Science; and

WHEREAS, following in the footsteps of her parents, Peggy was very active in her community and at every meeting she was sought out to act as secretary and record the proceedings; and

WHEREAS, when financial difficulties fell upon her family, she left the university and began employment as a darkroom technician and offset printing press operator with the Federation of Southern Cooperatives; and during that period from 1968 until 1976, Peggy was promoted to administrative assistant of the Southern Cooperative Development Fund; and

WHEREAS, Peggy was later employed by the St. Martin, Iberia, and Lafayette Community Action Agency as the secretary to the director of operations; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Peggy continued her career as a senior word processor, supervisor, and family law unit secretary for Acadiana Legal Service Corporation; and

WHEREAS, Peggy was elected as the first Black President of the Lafayette Parish Legal Secretaries Association and served as the first Black Governor of that association; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Peggy was the first Black from Lafayette to serve as secretary for a standing committee of the Louisiana State Senate under Senate President Allen Bares; and

WHEREAS, Peggy was only the second Black to be hired as a committee secretary for the Louisiana State Senate, but the first Black committee secretary to complete an entire legislative session for the Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Peggy also served as secretary for the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations from 1988 until 1991; and

WHEREAS, Peggy served as the first Black committee secretary for the Senate Finance Committee under the chairmanships of the Honorable B. B. "Sixty" Rayburn and the Honorable John J. Hainkel Jr. for nine years; and

WHEREAS, Peggy transferred to the Senate Fiscal Services Division in 1991 and remained there until her retirement in 2018; and

WHEREAS, Peggy compiled a desk handbook of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 on Public Finance for staff to use in committee; this publication continues to serve staff and legislators as an invaluable ready reference; and

WHEREAS, Peggy was the first secretary to staff the Litigation Subcommittee of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget; and

WHEREAS, Peggy was the first Black to serve as the secretary for the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget under the chairmanships of the Honorable John J. Hainkel Jr. and the Honorable Jay Dardenne for seven years; and

WHEREAS, Peggy served as secretary for the Revenue Estimating Conference since 2000; and

WHEREAS, Peggy served on numerous interim legislative committees, and been

promoted from administrative specialist to administrative secretary in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Peggy always focused on the task at hand; she was a planner who accounted for all the minute details and logistics of every committee meeting or other circumstance that demanded her undivided attention; and

WHEREAS, when the individual selected to decorate the Christmas tree in the office of then Senate President John Hainkel was unable to do so, Peggy stepped in to help and her creativity and skill fashioned handmade magnolias and other Louisiana-themed ornaments, and thereafter Peggy continued as the official Christmas tree decorator for Senate President Hainkel for several years; and

WHEREAS, Peggy also prepared extraordinary stationery, hand-lettered invitations, and spectacular decorations for family social events; and

WHEREAS, Peggy is a faithful member of St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Baton Rouge, but holds Immaculate Heart of Mary and St. Paul the Apostle Catholic churches in Lafayette close to her heart as her home church parish; and

WHEREAS, Peggy keeps a watchful eye on her father, Norris Broussard Sr., who at ninety-seven years of age, continues to be in charge of his own business matters and does not hesitate to remind his children of that fact; and

WHEREAS, Peggy maintains a feisty personality by issuing orders to her oldest and only living sister, Anita; her brother, the Honorable Terrel Broussard, Judge Pro Tempore for the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal; and her younger brothers, Ignatius and Norris Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Peggy has two sons and she delights in all that they have achieved in life; and

WHEREAS, Jason earned a degree in business administration from Dillard University; he is a database analyst at LSU and lives in Prairieville with his wife Bianca and daughter Jacelyn; and

WHEREAS, Terrance earned a degree in sports medicine, a master's degree in human resources development from Clemson University, and now works at DJO Global and lives in Indiana along with his wife Alicia, daughters Amelia and Natalie, and son Alexander "Xander"; and

WHEREAS, for many years her children, and later her grandchildren, enjoyed visits to see "GiGi" regularly at the state capitol and at the legislature; and

WHEREAS, Peggy Broussard is to be congratulated as the first Black from Lafayette, Louisiana, to be employed at the state capitol in these capacities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Margaret "Peggy" Joyce Broussard after twenty-nine years of extraordinary public service to the Louisiana State Senate and after a total of a fifty years in her chosen profession as a secretary.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby congratulate Peggy on the occasion of her well-deserved retirement from the Louisiana State Senate in 2018.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Peggy Broussard.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE