

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 210

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, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PETERSON, PRICE, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To commend Glenn A. Koepp, Secretary of the Senate, for his many years of exemplary public service to this body and the state of Louisiana and to congratulate him upon the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, since March, 2004, the duties of Secretary of the Senate Glenn Koepp during any legislative day require taking responsibility for the steady tempo of chamber activities, consultation with senators on the advancement of legislation and amendments, communication with the House Clerk and Governor's Office, and interpretation of Senate Rules, with each of these occurrences demanding his apt attention; and

WHEREAS, Glenn and his staff undertake the complex inner workings of the legislative process and the continuity of daily chamber proceedings, then after adjournment and before the next legislative day, the engrossment process may require Legislative Bureau amendments and Senate Journal corrections; and

WHEREAS, working at the state capitol has been a way of life for Glenn for well over forty-seven years, from the time he began as a student worker in 1972, until his last organizational session in January 2020, when he yields the desk to a newly elected secretary of the Senate; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries, an association within the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL); and he is an active member of the NCSL Task Force on Reapportionment; and

WHEREAS, as a nationally recognized expert on reapportionment and redistricting,

Glenn's experience on the subject began in 1981 when he was placed in charge of Senate redistricting; since that time he has created four redistricting plans for the Senate, assisted in the creation of applicable software systems, and has consulted in redistricting plans for other states and local governing authorities; and

WHEREAS, his expertise has led to his appointment as Special Master in two court challenges, Hays vs. Louisiana and Grieg, et al. vs. City of St. Martinville, in the United States District Court for the Western District of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, as an undergraduate at LSU, he received a degree in political science and even entertained a career in chemistry; however, while attending the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at LSU, in 1972, he happened upon employment with the Louisiana House of Representatives as an assistant sergeant at arms; he met Dick Barrios and Butch Speer and served as a sergeant at arms for the Constitutional Convention of 1973; and

WHEREAS, thus began a lengthy career in state government with the House of Representatives, the Legislative Council, and eventually, the Louisiana State Senate; and

WHEREAS, Glenn was assigned as attorney for the House Retirement Committee chaired by Representative Shady Wall, an influential force of nature, who fired Glenn every other day; however, Glenn handled him carefully, learned to draft amendments "on the fly", and completed a research project on retirement systems; and

WHEREAS, he was a founding partner of Koepp, Hamilton, Henderson, and Baer law firm with friends, David Hamilton, Wallace Henderson, and Michael Baer, who would become Senate secretary in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Koeop was soon hired as a banking lobbyist and continued to sharpen his legislative drafting skills; he was appointed as director of the Legislative Bureau by Senate President Michael O'Keefe and he became assistant secretary of the Senate in 1981; and

WHEREAS, his reapportionment and redistricting projects began in earnest and Glenn would become secretary of the Senate in 2004 by a vote of the membership with Senator Don Hines as president of the Senate; and the next fifteen years were quite exciting and flew by in a blur; and

WHEREAS, reared on a farm in Washington Parish near Bogalusa, Glenn led a

"Tom Sawyer" existence filled with headstrong boyhood adventures, hunting, fishing, and sports; and

WHEREAS, Glenn is a storyteller without equal; a talent he inherited from his grandfather, his father Cyril, and his mother Leota; he can weave a story in such rich detail that it becomes a shared experience; he can hold the attention of his audience, who is engrossed in the suspense, until the end; which is sometimes punctuated with a joke; and

WHEREAS, Glenn has an easy-going demeanor that is quite intuitive; he has the uncanny ability to identify an individual's mood by merely observing his actions for a moment; and

WHEREAS, that spirit of adventure has taken him around the continent to hunt all manner of wild beasts, to fly fish in the streams of Alaska, and to deepwater fish in the Gulf of Mexico; his inquisitive nature longs to see 'what is around the next bend'; and

WHEREAS, Glenn Koepp has seen it all; as his last legislative session draws to a close in June 2019, he reflects fondly on the history that he has witnessed and the friendships he has made; and

WHEREAS, Glenn has been married to his wife Anna for forty-six years; their sons have found success in rehabilitation disciplines; Cooper is a massage therapist and Daniel is an outdoor behavioral therapist; and

WHEREAS, the narrative of Glenn's life is best told in "first person" by him; for now, he is setting his sights on his next big adventure which will be quite a tale to tell.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Glenn Alan Koepp, Secretary of the Senate, for his many years of exemplary public service and does hereby congratulate him upon his retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend congratulations to our friend and colleague, Glenn Koepp, and does hereby offer its best wishes on all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Glenn A. Koepp, Secretary of the Senate.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE