## A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate the Atlas Foundation upon the occasion of its 13th Annual Friendship and Dialogue Dinner & Award Ceremony.

WHEREAS, the Atlas Foundation was founded in Louisiana in 2002 as a nonprofit, multicultural, faith-based organization, operating for spiritual and educational purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Atlas Foundation is dedicated to fostering understanding, tolerance, respect and friendship among people of different faiths and cultures; and

WHEREAS, the Atlas Foundation provides a forum in which different faiths can be expressed and discussed in an atmosphere of trust, respect, and understanding; and

WHEREAS, the opportunities provided by the Atlas Foundation to the Baton Rouge community include interfaith dialogue groups, public discussion series, Turkish cooking and language classes, as well as personal visits to churches, synagogues, civic and business leaders, and academic institutions; and

WHEREAS, those who have participated in these Atlas Foundation events have gained important new insights and personal friendship through dialogue with people of other faiths and cultures; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge chapter of the Atlas Foundation will hold its 13th Annual Friendship and Dialogue Dinner & Award Ceremony on March 31, 2016.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Baton Rouge chapter of the Atlas Foundation for its contributions to the community in encouraging democracy and fostering dialogue among diverse groups on the occasion of its 13th Annual Friendship and Dialogue Dinner & Award Ceremony.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Emrah Aktepe, Executive Director of the Baton Rouge chapter of the Atlas Foundation.