

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY SENATOR KOSTELKA

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Charles Staples upon receipt of the Outstanding Agricultural Producer of the Year award.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate Charles H. "Charlie" Staples of Calhoun, Louisiana, upon
3 selection as Outstanding Agricultural Producer of the Year at the 2012 AG EXPO
4 Agricultural Awards and Legislative Appreciation Luncheon sponsored by the North
5 Louisiana Agri-Business Council.

6 WHEREAS, farming has existed for thousands of years and agriculture has been the
7 mainstay of this state's economy since its inception; and

8 WHEREAS, Louisiana farmers engage in all manner of agrarian pursuits, in
9 particular, dairy farming, that yields products which target local, national, and international
10 markets; agribusiness contributes to a positive aspect of America's foreign trade balance with
11 the exportation of foodstuffs; and

12 WHEREAS, Charlie Staples is owner of Staples Dairy, a family-owned business that
13 has been in continuous operation since 1924; it is the only operating dairy in Ouachita Parish
14 and one of eight dairies found in the Northeast Louisiana region; and

15 WHEREAS, Charlie Staples learned the business from the ground up; he began to
16 hand milk cows at the tender age of three; by age of six, he started daily milking chores; and
17 with the exclusion of three years of military service in the United States Air Force, he has
18 been involved in milking operations at the dairy, twice a day, for over seventy years; and

1 WHEREAS, Charlie took over supervision of the dairy in 1958, and since that time
2 it is estimated that Staples Dairy has produced over eighty-seven million pounds of milk;
3 that is enough to fill 174 million eight-ounce glasses; and

4 WHEREAS, since childhood, Charlie has witnessed a steady development of applied
5 technologies related to the advancement of animal husbandry, refrigeration, and increased
6 milk production, from hand milking to the latest vacuum devices, milking pipelines, and
7 fully automated robotic milking stations like the Herringbone Parlor; and

8 WHEREAS, these improvements are most evident in a comparison of milk
9 production output; in 1958, a dairy cow produced thirty-five pounds of milk or four gallons
10 per day, while presently, daily production averages sixty pounds or about seven gallons; and

11 WHEREAS, Charlie transformed Staples Dairy from a small business selling raw
12 milk stock locally, to a more profitable enterprise selling to Dairy Farmers of America
13 Co-op, a national marketing co-operative that distributes bulk milk to commodities
14 producers throughout the United States and overseas; and

15 WHEREAS, Charlie continues in the vocation that he loves, in a venture started by
16 his parents, Fred and Vivian Staples, and he has inherited their stewardship for the land with
17 concern for water and soil conservation and a respect for the animals placed in his care
18 embracing sound practices in feed nutrition and veterinary medicine; and

19 WHEREAS, Charlie Staples is passionate about dairy science, proud of his
20 family-oriented business, yet humble from the presence of God's grace in his life; and

21 WHEREAS, Charlie Staples is a successful business manager, farmer, and dairyman;
22 his family enterprise has prospered from his hard work and tenacity; and his continued
23 success contributes greatly to the economic strength of the state and the nation.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
25 does hereby commend and congratulate Charles H. "Charlie" Staples upon selection as the
26 Outstanding Agricultural Producer of the Year for 2012.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
28 Charlie Staples.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Suzi Montague.

DIGEST

Kostelka

SR No. 4

Commends Charles Staples upon receipt of the Outstanding Agricultural Producer of the Year.