

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 50

BY SENATOR HEWITT

A RESOLUTION

To commend Leo Joseph Casanave for fifty-three years of dedicated service as a math and science teacher and counselor upon his retirement from the St. Tammany Parish School System.

WHEREAS, Leo Joseph Casanave, a lifelong resident of Lacombe, Louisiana, has been associated with the St. Tammany Parish School System and a part of the school community since he attended and graduated from St. Tammany High School in 1960; and

WHEREAS, he attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, earning a Bachelor of Science in math and science in 1965; he obtained a Master of Education from Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, Oklahoma, in 1970; and he continued his education by receiving a Plus 30 from Southern University in Baton Rouge, while also attending Loyola University, Southern University of New Orleans, Prairie View A&M University, and Northwestern State University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Casanave began his career as a teacher in 1965 at St. Tammany High School where he taught math and science for five years; he became the school counselor in 1970, and was a counselor until he retired in 2004 after forty plus years of service; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, he returned to St. Tammany Junior High School as an administrative assistant until his retirement in May; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Casanave worked as the youth coordinator for the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) for twenty-eight years where he placed over six thousand youth and adults with work opportunities; and

WHEREAS, he also managed the St. Tammany Parish Federal Credit Union for twenty-seven years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Casanave is currently a St. Tammany Parish Fire Department District #3 commissioner, where he serves as secretary, a volunteer for the Lacombe Recreational Department as a Little League baseball coach; a member of Phi Delta Kappa,

Southern University Alumni Association, and Knights of Columbus of Slidell, as well as a charter member of Men of Our Town Civic and Social Club; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Lacombe and a longtime member of the senior choir; is a former board member and past president of Boys' and Girls' Club of Slidell, and was a member of the feasibility study for the Boys' and Girls' Club of Slidell and Pope John Paul High School; and

WHEREAS, Leo is married to Anjo Smith Casanave and they celebrated their fifty-third wedding anniversary on June 3, 2020; and from this union, two children were born, Donovan Videl and Donniss Vanee'; a daughter-in-law, Amber; one five-year-old grandson, Aden Donovan; and one son-in-law, Reggie; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Casanave has taught and counseled four generations of children in many families; he has made a difference in the lives of many; and

WHEREAS, in retirement, Leo plans to spend time with his grandson, travel, fish, garden, and just enjoy his life; and

WHEREAS, through Mr. Casanave's many years of selfless service to the St. Tammany Parish School System and the people of St. Tammany Parish, he proved to be an educator of boundless energy and ability, a person of great empathy and vision, and a teacher whose devotion to education has been a priceless gift to the public school system of St. Tammany Parish and the state of Louisiana, and he merits a special measure of commendation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Leo Joseph Casanave for his many contributions and enduring legacy created from teaching and counseling in the St. Tammany Parish School System for fifty-three years and volunteering countless hours of service to the community, does hereby recognize his lifetime of devotion to the education profession, and does hereby extend best wishes in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Leo Joseph Casanave.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE