

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 65

BY SENATOR CHEEK

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Antonio Rivera on being recognized as one of Louisiana's 2010 Young Heroes.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the honor bestowed upon Antonio Rivera, as a recipient of the 2010 Louisiana Young Heroes Award; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Young Heroes awards are given each year to students in grades four through twelve who have excelled in academics and public service while overcoming adversity in their own lives, and who serve as an inspiration to others through their actions and strength of character; and

WHEREAS, these awards are presented by Louisiana Public Broadcasting and the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge and underwritten by Books-a-Million and Chase; and

WHEREAS, Antonio Rivera is an outstanding sixteen year old student with a 4.8 grade point average who attends Evangel Christian Academy where he is a member of the National Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, Antonio Rivera's parents died of tragic circumstances when he was very young, and despite his age, he became the primary care giver for his ailing grandmother who died when he was only eleven years old; and

WHEREAS, shortly after his grandmother's death, Antonio moved to New York to live with his sister, however, they both unfortunately ended up living homeless on the streets of the city; and

WHEREAS, through Metro Ministries, Antonio returned to Louisiana to live with the Harrelson family, where he continues to blossom and thrive; and

WHEREAS, Antonio is active in his church, and volunteers with a number of groups that help provide Christmas gifts for the underprivileged, sends care packages to soldiers overseas, visits nursing homes and works with the Special Olympics; and

WHEREAS, Antonio's success story is that of a very special person who has strived to overcome numerous obstacles and hardship in his young life to become a strong, determined, kind, and generous individual who gives back to his community at every opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Antonio is deserving of this prestigious recognition and should be forever proud of his extraordinary accomplishments in the face of tremendous adversity and of the hope and inspiration he has brought to the lives of his classmates, teachers, friends, and adopted family, and he has earned the enduring appreciation and respect of the members of the Senate on behalf of every citizen of the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon young people like Antonio Rivera, who, even when faced with adversity, continuously strives to make the world a better place.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby commends Antonio Rivera, a 2010 recipient of the Louisiana Young Heroes award, and expresses gratitude for the extraordinary service he provides in his community and the contributions he makes to the state of Louisiana, and honors the bravery, courage, and determination he has shown with his extraordinary accomplishments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be presented to Antonio Rivera, a 2010 recipient of the Louisiana Young Heroes Award.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE