

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 26

BY SENATOR PRICE

A RESOLUTION

To commend and recognize Joel Walker for being one of only two Louisiana recipients earning the national Cooke College Scholarship sponsored by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation.

WHEREAS, Mr. Joel Walker was born and raised in Donaldsonville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walker is currently dually enrolled at Donaldsonville High School and River Parishes Community College through the Early College Option program, and will graduate in May with both a high school diploma and an associate's degree; and

WHEREAS, he plans to pursue an undergraduate degree in pre-med at Morehouse College with the ultimate goal of becoming a trauma surgeon; and

WHEREAS, his ACT score placed him in the 85th percentile nationally and served as one of the many qualifications earning him the Cooke College Scholarship; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walker was chosen from a pool of more than 5,800 applicants residing in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, Northern Marianas, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa; and

WHEREAS, the private, independent Jack Kent Cooke Foundation is the largest scholarship provider in the United States, dedicated to advancing the education of exceptionally promising students who have financial needs; and

WHEREAS, the Cooke College Scholarship program provides participating students with financial support, educational advising from Foundation staff, access to a network of over 2,800 active scholars and alumni, comprehensive counseling, and other support services such as internships and studies abroad; and

WHEREAS, since 2000 the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has awarded over \$222 million in scholarships to over 2,800 students from eighth grade through graduate school; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walker has proven to be the epitome of everything the Early College Option program and the Cooke College Scholarship program requires, evidenced by his dedication to his community, academics, and goals for life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Walker is certainly on the road to becoming a successful twenty-first century leader who will make Donaldsonville and Louisiana proud.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Joel Walker for earning the prestigious national Cooke College Scholarship, and hereby records for posterity his many accomplishments, and does hereby extend best wishes for continued success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Joel Walker.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE