

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY SENATORS FIELDS, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, CORTEZ, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JACKSON, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, TARVER, WARD, WHITE AND WOMACK AND REPRESENTATIVE THOMPSON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Jeanne C. Johnston for her years of dedicated service to the Louisiana Legislature and the state of Louisiana and to congratulate her upon her retirement.

WHEREAS, Jeanne Claire Johnston was born on June 12, 1956, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and raised in nearby Denham Springs, Louisiana, along with her siblings Kathryn, Robert, Jimmy, and Lynn by their parents Earl and Margaret Johnston; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne C. Johnston developed a lifelong love of learning and language at an early age through reading voraciously; and

WHEREAS, after graduation from high school Jeanne C. Johnston continued her pursuit of knowledge at Louisiana State University, where she earned both bachelor's and master's degrees; and

WHEREAS, upon completion of her formal education, Jeanne C. Johnston answered a newspaper advertisement and began her career at the Louisiana Legislature as a member of central staff with the House of Representatives in 1982; and

WHEREAS, during her time with the House of Representatives Jeanne C. Johnston honed her craft and began to establish herself as a master researcher and drafter of legislation; and

WHEREAS, in 1984 Jeanne C. Johnston crossed Memorial Hall and began her tenure with the Louisiana Senate, initially staffing the Committee on Commerce before establishing herself as the authority on policy with the Committee on Education; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne C. Johnston proudly served in this role until the birth of her son, Matthew, in 1989; and

WHEREAS, after a hiatus to focus on motherhood, Jeanne C. Johnston came back

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to state service in 2000 with the Department of Education, where she served as a special assistant to former superintendent Cecil J. Picard and as the department's legislative liaison; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne C. Johnston reunited with her "Senate family" by returning to her cherished role as the primary staff professional for the Senate Committee on Education in 2007; and

WHEREAS, she continued to faithfully and dutifully serve the members and her fellow employees of the Senate as an invaluable resource and trusted advisor until her well-deserved retirement in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne C. Johnston's fundamental belief in and commitment to the value created by a strong and equitable public education system guided her throughout her illustrious career in public service; and

WHEREAS, her indomitable work ethic and generous spirit were unmatched during her decades in service to the state of Louisiana, as she embodied dedication through both her actions and well-crafted words; and

WHEREAS, Jeanne C. Johnston's tenacity, grace, and deft touch worked in unison to leave a legacy indelibly etched on the institution she so dearly loved and respected and the people within it who loved and respected her in equal measure.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Jeanne C. Johnston for her distinguished career in service to the state of Louisiana, extend its sincere appreciation for her efforts and contributions to the legislature and its staff, and offer heartfelt wishes for a long and joyful retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jeanne C. Johnston.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES