

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 6

BY SENATORS THOMPSON AND GATTI

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Mason William Andrews on being certified as the youngest pilot to fly solo around the world by Guinness World Records.

WHEREAS, in addition to his world record for total circumnavigation, he was named the youngest pilot to cross the Atlantic and Pacific oceans solo; and

WHEREAS, Mason's flight took one hundred eighty flight hours over seventy-six days, taking off from Monroe, Louisiana, on July 22, 2018, and landing on Saturday, October 6, 2018, when he was eighteen years and one hundred sixty-three days old; and

WHEREAS, Mason earned his private pilot certificate in 2017 and built up about three hundred hours in his family's plane before attempting the worldwide journey; and

WHEREAS, he flew a single-engine Piper PA-32 Lance, called "The Spirit of Louisiane", named in honor of Louisiana's rich French heritage and a nod to Charles Lindbergh's "Spirit of St. Louis"; and

WHEREAS, his stops around the globe included Canada, Santa Maria Azores, France, Italy, Greece, Egypt, Pakistan, India, Thailand, the Philippines, Okinawa, Russia, and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, his life changing experience was inspired by Charles Lindbergh's epic journey and, like Lindbergh, he landed in Paris after his Atlantic crossing; and

WHEREAS, his favorite parts of the trip were seeing the Eiffel Tower as he made his final approach in Paris and the pyramids of Egypt; and

WHEREAS, there were several tense moments during his journey including flying through a sandstorm in Saudi Arabia and a nighttime emergency when severe thunderstorms blocked his route from the South China Sea; and

WHEREAS, weather stranded Mason in the Philippines due to typhoons for three weeks and nearly doubled his originally projected forty day journey; and

WHEREAS, Mason is a professional aviation major at Louisiana Tech University and was able to conduct his studies online during his trip; and

WHEREAS, Mason used the round-the-world flight to help raise funds for free summer camps for children with developmental and physical disabilities; and

WHEREAS, he raised over thirty-five thousand dollars for MedCamps of Louisiana, where he has worked for the past three years; and

WHEREAS, Mason is an exemplary citizen and his incredible record breaking journey is a noble and adventurous feat to be celebrated by all the citizens of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Mason William Andrews on being certified as the youngest pilot to fly solo around the world according to Guinness World Records.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that his notable accomplishment is hereby recorded for posterity and that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana also extends enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor he brings to his family and friends, his community, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mason William Andrews.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE