2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS

COMMENDATIONS: Commends LSU Physicist Gabriela González for her work in a groundbreaking scientific discovery

A RESOLUTION

To commend Gabriela González for her work in the recent groundbreaking scientific discovery of gravitational waves.

WHEREAS, Gabriela González is an experimental physicist with the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) in Livingston, Louisiana, and a professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, years of research and hard work came to fruition with the detection of a single ripple in the fabric of space and time on September 14, 2015. At 4:50:45 a.m., LIGO detected a signal of a gravitational wave, and nearly seven milliseconds later, another identical signal reached the LIGO Hanford facility in Hanford, Washington, confirming the signal and the presence of gravitational waves in the universe; and

WHEREAS, this particular wave occurred as a result of two black holes colliding with each other nearly 1.3 billion years ago, and in the final fraction of a second of the collision, a large amount of energy was emitted in the form of gravitational waves and spread out through the universe and reached Earth on that fateful September morning; and

WHEREAS, not only did González and her collaborators confirm the general theory of relativity that Albert Einstein predicted a century ago, but they also have opened up countless opportunities for a new age of scientific discovery; and

WHEREAS, this discovery is so groundbreaking, Einstein himself doubted scientists would ever be able to physically measure and record these waves; but with dedication and

passion for understanding the universe, González and the team of LIGO scientists did just that; and

WHEREAS, Gabriela González has been named one of the top ten scientists in the world by the scientific journal Nature, adding to an impressive list of accolades that include Scientist of the Year by Great Minds in STEM and one of the top 100 Leading Global Thinkers by Foreign Policy magazine; and

WHEREAS, on behalf of the LIGO Scientific Collaboration, she received the 2016 Breakthrough of the Year from Physics World for "their revolutionary, first ever direct observations of gravitational waves"; and

WHEREAS, in addition, González, who was born in Córdoba, Argentina, was also awarded the highest distinction from the Senate of Argentina, the Honorable Domingo Faustino Sarmiento award.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Gabriela González for her work in the recent groundbreaking scientific discovery of gravitational waves and wish her continued success in her career.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Gabriela González.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 33 Original 2017 Regular Session Davis

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