

2018 Second Extraordinary Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 10

BY SENATOR LUNEAU

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Kylie Renee Walleser-Bush for her participation in the Pillow Pets project and willingness to visit other kids with words of encouragement.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Kylie Renee Walleser-Bush for her participation in the Pillow Pets project and  
3 her unselfish actions to bring comfort, good wishes, and encouragement to those  
4 children spending Christmas in the hospital.

5 WHEREAS, Kylie Walleser-Bush was born with a rare birth defect which led her to  
6 ultimately develop "short gut syndrome", a condition that causes her body to fail to absorb  
7 the nutrients necessary for her to thrive, and damaging key organ functions; and

8 WHEREAS, because of the effects of the syndrome, Kylie needed a triple organ  
9 transplant, receiving a small intestine, pancreas, and liver in a procedure she underwent on  
10 December 29, 2016, when she was only ten years old; and

11 WHEREAS, Kylie Walleser-Bush was able to graduate this month with her fellow  
12 sixth graders at J. J. Barron Sr. Elementary School in Pineville, Louisiana; and

13 WHEREAS, Kylie's life in the hospital spanned her first ten years and in 2015 when  
14 Kylie was in the fifth grade, she and her fellow Junior Beta Club members were planning  
15 their pre-Christmas service projects; and

16 WHEREAS, Kylie decided to raise donations to provide children in the hospital on  
17 Christmas Eve with a "Pillow Pet", a soft and cuddly stuffed animal that, with its straps and  
18 velcro could be made into a pillow, bringing the promise of endless Pillow Pet hugs for each

1 recipient; and

2 WHEREAS, because of her repeated lengthy hospital stays, Kylie was familiar with  
3 how lonely and scared children in the hospital can feel, even with the continual attention of  
4 their families and caregivers, so her project was to deliver Pillow Pets to ease the loneliness  
5 and the sadness of spending Christmas in the hospital, a very meaningful way of giving back  
6 to those whose situations were so familiar to Kylie; and

7 WHEREAS, while in the hospital in Omaha, Nebraska, dealing with her first small  
8 bowel transplant and the later rejection by her body, she made friends with children from  
9 other states who were a long way from home and feeling scared; and

10 WHEREAS, the parents of one of those girls began a foundation called "Ashley's  
11 Room" to help children like Kylie coordinate Pillow Pets projects, so Kylie had the perfect  
12 partner and Pillow Pets were delivered to children in the hospital; and

13 WHEREAS, at Christmastime 2015, Kylie's mother believed that their "Christmas  
14 miracle" had been granted, as Kylie was matched with an organ donor, and then state  
15 Senator-elect Jay Luneau, who had received the news that the millions of dollars for the  
16 medical bills would be covered by the Louisiana Medicaid program, could reassure the  
17 family that they needed to travel to Omaha for the transplant without worries about how the  
18 medical bills would be paid; and

19 WHEREAS, the success of that triple organ transplant has allowed Kylie to attend  
20 school, to graduate from sixth grade with her classmates, and move on to seventh grade; and

21 WHEREAS, Kylie's medical issues are not yet over and she will return to Omaha for  
22 further surgeries, but she faces that future with strength and a big heart; and

23 WHEREAS, clearly the love and care with which Kylie was showered by her  
24 caregivers, family, and friends have helped to produce a loving and caring child with  
25 empathy enough to look to others traveling the same medical path that she walks and to work  
26 to make those lives a little easier and happier, a gift that everyone is glad she is here to give;  
27 and

28 WHEREAS, such an act of kindness is not often the action of one in elementary  
29 school, but Kylie is a very mature twelve year old, and it appears she is destined to brighten  
30 the lives of those she travels with throughout her life, both comforting and inspiring those

1 around her, whether with Pillow Pets or with her winning smile.

2           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
3 does hereby commend Kylie Renee Walleser-Bush for her participation in the Pillow Pets  
4 project and her unselfish actions to bring comfort, good wishes, and encouragement to those  
5 children spending Christmas in the hospital.

6           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Kylie  
7 Renee Walleser-Bush.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien.

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DIGEST

SR 10 Original

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