

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY SENATOR LONG

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Tom Kelly on his accomplishments in the newspaper industry.

WHEREAS, Tom Kelly began his newspaper career as a reporter for the *Winn Parish Enterprise* in December, 1949; and

WHEREAS, in his first ten years, he served in various positions at the *Sevier County-News Record* in Sevierville, Tennessee, the *Gladewater Daily Mirror* in Gladewater, Texas, and the *Natchitoches Enterprise*; and

WHEREAS, in 1959, Mr. Kelly joined the *Jennings Daily News* as managing editor, and in 1962, he became a partner and publisher of the *Ruston Daily Leader* for twelve years, at which time he moved to Slidell, Louisiana, where he managed the *Slidell Daily Times*; and

WHEREAS, he was an organizer and president of the Enterprise Group, Inc., a newspaper ownership and management company that published properties in Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Florida; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kelly attempted semi-retirement when he moved to Las Cruces, New Mexico, but soon realized there was a weekly newspaper for sale in a neighboring town, Hatch, New Mexico, and purchased and ran the newspaper for ten years; and

WHEREAS, his most recent venture in the newspaper industry has been a twenty-two year labor of love that started in 1997 when he kicked off the *Piney Woods Journal* in his hometown of Dodson, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the *Piney Woods Journal* is an award winning monthly publication specializing in the coverage of forestry and agriculture interests in Louisiana, Texas, and the mid-south region of the United States; and

WHEREAS, he continued in that role until he sold the newspaper in March, 2019, and currently serves as a columnist for the newspaper; and

WHEREAS, Tom Kelly, one of Louisiana's finest sons, merits a special measure of commendation for his singular achievements in the newspaper industry; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of people like Tom Kelly.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Tom Kelly on his outstanding accomplishments in the newspaper industry, and does hereby record for posterity the pride and honor that he brings to his family, friends, community, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Tom Kelly.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES