

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 86

BY REPRESENTATIVE ANDERS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Bradley Spicer for fifty-five years of exemplary public service and to congratulate him upon his retirement from the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry.

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana commends Mr. Spicer for the exceptional public service he has provided to the state of Louisiana over his decades of dedicated conservation work; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer is a native of Oak Hall Station, Pennsylvania, and a graduate of State College High; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation Mr. Spicer served in the United States Air Force as an in-flight refueling specialist for the Strategic Air Command during the Cold War; and

WHEREAS, after being honorably discharged from active duty in 1960, Mr. Spicer continued to serve in the Air Force Reserves to ensure he would be available for active duty should a national emergency occur; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer received his bachelor of science in agronomy in 1965 from the University of Southwestern Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, he later received his master in agronomy with a minor in geomorphology in 1969 from Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer is a licensed professional geoscientist and during his career he has authored and coauthored numerous technical and scientific articles and reports; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer began his career in conservation in 1965 working as a soil scientist for the United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service (SCS) in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, he spent twenty years with the SCS, during which time he was placed on special assignments assisting state agencies, including the office of the governor, the Department of Natural Resources, coastal management division, and the Department of Agriculture and Forestry, in natural resource conservation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer changed the way Louisiana treats soil and water conservation by developing comprehensive and coordinated conservation systems; and

WHEREAS, he was the driving force in moving soil and water conservation from the Department of Transportation and Development to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and creating the office of soil and water conservation; and

WHEREAS, he has continued to steer conservation efforts in our state and has overseen the development of conservation programs from their infancy through decades of maturation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer has served as the assistant commissioner for the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, office of soil and water conservation, and executive director of the State Soil and Water Conservation Commission since January 1986; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer's passion and commitment to conservation have made him an invaluable leader in natural resource conservation efforts, both in Louisiana and nationwide, and he has received recognition for his contributions at the state and national levels; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer served as the president of the National Association of State Conservation Agencies and was awarded the National Association of Conservation Districts' Professional Service Award in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer has overseen numerous committees, task forces, programs, and conservation activities over the years and served as an advisor on former Governor Buddy Roemer's transition team; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer has been instrumental in many of Louisiana's major natural resource conservation milestones over the past five decades, including the passage of the State and Local Coastal Resources Management in 1978 and the creation of the Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Authority in 1989, which was the forerunner to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, and the Ground Water Resources Commission in 2001; and

WHEREAS, while serving as state ambassador to the United States National Guard, Mr. Spicer, among other activities, traveled to Honduras in 1998 to review the National Guard's recovery efforts following Hurricane Mitch; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer again utilized his knowledge and expertise in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, when he worked long hours at FEMA headquarters coordinating debris recovery efforts with the United States Army Corps of Engineers and FEMA; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer is driven by his passion for conservation and desire to preserve the beautiful state of Louisiana for his children and grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spicer's retirement is a tremendous loss for the Department of Agriculture and Forestry and our state, but his legacy will endure for future generations who benefit from his conservation work.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Bradley Spicer for his fifty-five years of dedicated public service and congratulate him upon his retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Bradley Spicer.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE