

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONSTON

A RESOLUTION

To posthumously commend Angelle Deshautelles on thirty-three years of service to the Ascension Parish Library.

WHEREAS, Ms. Deshautelles first joined the Ascension Parish Library as assistant director in 1987, three years after earning her master's degree in library science from Southern Mississippi University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Deshautelles became director of the Ascension Parish Library in 1992; throughout her early years with the library, she relentlessly promoted reading and emphasized the library's importance in the Ascension Parish community; and

WHEREAS, Angelle led the library through a period of tremendous growth; during her directorship the Ascension Parish Library added new locations in Galvez and Dutchtown, and existing locations were expanded and renovated; she also advocated for the purchase of land in St. Amant, which will be the site of another library in Ascension Parish; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, Ms. Deshautelles proposed a cooperative agreement with Ascension Parish to finance construction of the Dutchtown library location and the expansion and renovation of the Gonzales location without increasing taxes; and

WHEREAS, her impact extended beyond the creation and renovation of additional library locations; Ms. Deshautelles played a critical role in the planning and implementation of many focused library services and initiatives, such as technology resource rooms, with computers, internet service, and computer classes, which facilitated a fundamental shift away from exclusively paper materials towards computers and electronic media; and

WHEREAS, Angelle also pushed for the addition of an outreach vehicle to expand the libraries' services to underserved areas of the parish as well as the adoption of adult literacy and English as a second language programs; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Deshautelle's professionalism motivated her to join the American Library Association, the Public Library Association, and the Louisiana Library Association, the latter of which she served as an officer from 2001 to 2004; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Deshautelles's accomplishments were often recognized by her peers; the Ascension Parish Library was awarded the James O. Modisette Award for Public Libraries in 1994, 2000, and 2014, making it the only library in Louisiana to achieve this award three times under the same director, and she received the Anthony H. Benoit Mid-Career Award in 2004 and the Essae Mae Culver Distinguished Service Award in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Angelle Deshautelles understood and emphasized the value of public libraries, and her willingness to give to her community and assist her fellow librarians is certainly worthy of recognition, gratitude, and commendation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby posthumously commend Angelle Deshautelles, former Ascension Parish Library director, on her service to the Louisiana community and dedication to the public library system; does hereby express genuine appreciation for the work of Ms. Deshautelles; and does hereby eternally record her amazing and inspiring career with the Ascension Parish Library.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Ms. Angelle Deshautelles and the director of the Ascension Parish Library.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES