

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 279

BY REPRESENTATIVE PRESSLY

A RESOLUTION

To commend Jaylen Pruiett on being named a 2023 Gates Scholar.

WHEREAS, Jaylen Pruiett is a distinguished scholar and graduate of Captain Shreve High School who was recently named a 2023 Gates Scholar after participating in the Bobbie Cates Hicks Science and Medicine Academic Research Training (SMART) program; and

WHEREAS, at the SMART program, Jaylen interned under the guidance of Dr. Diana Cruz-Topete at Louisiana State University at Shreveport to study "Sex Differences in the Effects of Mental Stress on Myocardial Infarction"; Building our Regions Future of Shreveport initially launched the SMART program for a small number of academically advanced high school seniors from Caddo, Bossier, and DeSoto parishes to provide a year-long research experience; it is funded by donations from the late Bobbie Cates Hicks, the Bruce J. Heim Foundation, the Community Foundation of North Louisiana's Give for Good donors, the Community Foundation of North Louisiana's William C. Woolf Fund, and the Magale Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Pruiett was one of seven hundred fifty-nine American students who were selected out of fifty-one thousand applicants for the prestigious and highly-selective scholarship, which is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; as a 2023 Gates Scholar, he has displayed outstanding academic achievement and exceptional personal success skills and demonstrated leadership ability; and

WHEREAS, at Captain Shreve High School, Jaylen was involved in numerous extracurricular activities including the Louisiana Association of Student Councils, Top Teens of America, Captain Shreve Student Council, Key Club, Youth Advocacy Team, Mu Alpha Theta, National Honors Society, Black Studies Association, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes; and

WHEREAS, Jaylen is a founding member of Swamp Medics, which is the largest club at Captain Shreve High School, with more than one hundred fifty members; he is a truly inspiring young man who is deserving of the highest recognition for his outstanding achievements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Jaylen Pruiett on being named a 2023 Gates Scholar and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that he continue to prosper in all of his endeavors.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES