

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 106

BY SENATOR PRICE

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate A. Denise Graves on the occasion of her retirement with more than forty years with the Ascension Parish School Board.

WHEREAS, Ms. Graves acquired a Bachelor of Science and was named a "Women of Mines" recipient from the University of Texas at El Paso, a Master's degree from Louisiana State University, and a Master's Plus Thirty from Louisiana State University as well as Southeastern Louisiana University; and

WHEREAS, she spent seventeen years at St. Amant High School from 1981 to 1998 as a teacher and athletic coach, was recognized by Who's Who of Professional Educators and Outstanding Young Women of America, received the St. Amant High School Academic Booster Club Grant and the Ascension Fund Grant awarded for physical education, was the 1992-1993 St. Amant Teacher of the Year and the 1996-1997 Fellowship of Christian Athletes Louisiana Huddle Coach of the Year, and served as chair of the Physical Education Department, Rules and Regulations Committee for District 7-A AAAA and as a member of the faculty council; and

WHEREAS, she was Assistant Principal at St. Amant High School where she was also the assistant coach of the girls softball and girls basketball teams and head coach for the girls and boys cross country and girls track and field teams; and

WHEREAS, she has volunteered as the varsity football statistician without missing a single game, was given FCA Louisiana Huddle Coach of the Year honors, and recognized as honorary football team captain; and

WHEREAS, she has served as a member of the Louisiana Association of School Executives, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development, the National Education Association, the Women's Basketball Coaches Association, the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth, and the Louisiana High School Athletic Association; and

WHEREAS, from 1995 to 2025, Ms. Denise Graves held the Ascension Parish School titles of Assistant Principal at St. Amant High School, Principal of Gonzales Middle School, Director of Middle Schools, the District Representative to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, and Director of Human Resources, as well as Supervisor of Transportation and Supervisor of Child Nutrition, and is the first African American female to serve both as Assistant Superintendent and Superintendent of Ascension Parish; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Graves is a forty-six year member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, an AKA Silver Soror and AKA Life Member since 2004 and a member of the AKA Heritage Club and the AKA Ivy Tree of Honor Donor, Inc., while also remaining a 115th Anniversary Memorial Monument Donor at Howard University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Graves is the recipient of numerous honors including being featured in the 67th Boule Exhibit, AKA's Pioneering Sorors "Open Doors" A Celebration of Achievement and Excellence, a first place AKA Outstanding Basileus Award, Soror of the Year, Spirit of Education Award, first on record as an AKA Life Member, and Spirit of Service Award; and

WHEREAS, she has received special appointments including being named cochair for the AKA 87th South Central Regional Conference, as well as numerous roles as committee chair and cochair on the Regional Conference Workshop, Leadership Seminar, Boule Workshop, Boule Delegate, Regional Conference Delegate, Cluster Retreat, and AKA Day at the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Graves is a member and secretary of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Darrow, Louisiana, is a member of the Ascension Credit Union Board of Directors and Ascension Parish Charter Task Force, serves on numerous civic and professional committees, gives generously of her time through volunteerism, and has worked on numerous Habitat for Humanity projects.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate A. Denise Graves on the occasion of her retirement after more than forty years of dedicated service to the Ascension Parish School Board, its students, the community, and the entire state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to A.
Denise Graves.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE