

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 188

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana on its seventy-fifth anniversary as the state's independent voice offering solutions to critical public issues and focusing public attention on those solutions.

WHEREAS, the Public Affairs Research Council (PAR) was founded in 1950 when a group of concerned citizens gathered at the Bentley Hotel in Alexandria to form an organization dedicated to making government work better for all of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, PAR has been a fierce government watchdog leading the charge for public records access, open meetings laws, and ethic reforms, helping to ensure that citizens know what their government is doing; and

WHEREAS, PAR has been a leading proponent of state budget reforms through its research, analysis, and legislative testimony, shepherding Louisiana to enact reforms such as a balanced budget requirement, consensus revenue forecasting, a stable "rainy day" fund, and the creation of an independent legislative fiscal staff; and

WHEREAS, PAR provides a trove of publications and reports such as the Guide to the Legislature, Citizens' Rights Card, and the Guide to the Constitutional Amendments, the last of which gives a nonpartisan perspective on the propositions set before voters; and

WHEREAS, PAR has been a steadfast advocate of education, supporting the creation of Louisiana's community and technical college system, a revamped K-12 public school funding formula with strong accountability measures, and early childhood education; and

WHEREAS, PAR was instrumental in the 1973 constitutional convention, presenting facts and thoughtful analysis to the delegates rewriting Louisiana's governing document; and

WHEREAS, PAR was made the special master of the 1991 redistricting of the Legislature of Louisiana, which led to equitable reapportionment of single-member districts; and

WHEREAS, PAR has concerned itself with the environment, knowing the future of the state depends on a healthy coast; PAR's reports have provided fiscal oversight of the state's spending on coastal restoration and protection while pushing for transparency in the decision-making process; and

WHEREAS, PAR remains committed to ensuring the government works for the people by upholding an exemplary reputation for independence, nonpartisanship, and objectivity for the last seventy-five years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana on the occasion of its seventy-fifth anniversary and does hereby express appreciation for PAR's role as an independent voice offering solutions to critical public issues through research and analysis.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES