

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 137

BY SENATOR MCMATH

A RESOLUTION

To commend Mandeville High School Robotics Team 2992, "The S.S. Prometheus", for its distinguished performance in the FIRST Robotics Competition, for its dedication to community outreach and STEAM advocacy, and for being a model of student leadership and innovation in the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, STEAM education is an approach to learning that uses science, technology, engineering, the arts, and mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking; and

WHEREAS, Mandeville High School Robotics Team 2992, known as "The S.S. Prometheus", is an excellent example of STEAM in action; Team 2992 is one of the premier robotics teams in Louisiana; it is ranked number two in the state and has earned multiple awards for engineering excellence and gracious professionalism; and

WHEREAS, since its founding in 2008, Team 2992 has upheld the highest standards of the FIRST Robotics Competition; encouraging teamwork, ingenuity, and a passion for science and technology among high school students; and

WHEREAS, Team 2992 has demonstrated exceptional commitment to community engagement, having impacted over 38,000 students through its outreach programs, including summer robotics camps, the Northshore STEAM Fest, and the STEM kit initiative that brings engineering education into underfunded elementary classrooms; and

WHEREAS, the team's commitment to service is evident through its mentorship of other FIRST Robotics teams across the Gulf South, including FTC teams 22032 and 25619 and FRC teams 10446, 8118, and 4087, sharing shop space, resources, and expertise to help emerging teams thrive; and

WHEREAS, the team's Lifeboat Crew initiative assisted over fifty teams at eleven different competitions with technical and inspection support; that effort earned the team the Gracious Professionalism Award at the 2023 Bayou Regional; and

WHEREAS, through strong partnerships with organizations such as Chevron, NASA, the Children's Museum of St. Tammany, Hope House, and TrafficSTOP; Team 2992 has integrated robotics with philanthropy by hosting food and toy drives and raising funds for vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, Team 2992 hosts and operates Northshore Knockout, Louisiana's premier offseason robotics event that draws more than 700 participants and spectators annually; the event was recognized by the parish president with a proclamation of "Robotics Day" in July 2024; and

WHEREAS, the team received a commendation from Mandeville's city council; the work of Team 2992 has influenced the curriculum of the St. Tammany Parish School District to include a Science and Technology Center in the district's strategic growth plan; and

WHEREAS, Team 2992 reflects a sustainable and empowering educational culture through its student-led model; the team boasts a 100% graduation rate, a 100% college attendance rate, and 98% of team alumni enter STEAM fields; with many returning to serve as mentors in FIRST Robotics Competitions; and

WHEREAS, the team exemplifies the values of "Gracious Professionalism" and inclusivity, offering fee waivers, promoting diversity in team roles, and bringing STEAM to audiences from nursing homes to school pep rallies; and

WHEREAS, Team 2992 will represent Louisiana at the FIRST Championship in Houston and at the Student Association for STEM Advocacy (SASA) conference in Washington, D.C., further elevating the voice of Louisiana students in national STEM policy and innovation discussions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Mandeville High School Robotics Team 2992, "The S.S. Prometheus", for its excellence in robotics, dedication to mentorship, commitment to community outreach, and leadership in advancing STEAM education throughout the state.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE