

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 43

BY SENATORS CATHEY, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, EDMONDS, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HODGES, JACKSON-ANDREWS, JENKINS, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MIGUEZ, MILLER, MIZELL, MORRIS, MYERS, OWEN, PRESSLY, PRICE, REESE, SELDERS, TALBOT, WHEAT AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Senate President Cameron Henry, Jr. for serving as the 2026 Irish Grand Marshal in the Forty-Fourth Annual Irish-Italian Parade.

WHEREAS, the Irish-Italian Parade, one of the most awaited family-friendly events in Metairie, Louisiana, each year, rolled at noon on March 22, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Irish-Italian Parade was the vision of Edward L. "Eddie" Renton Sr. that came to life in 1983 when the inaugural Irish-Italian Parade rolled on the streets of Jefferson Parish, paving a way for the two heritages to come together; and

WHEREAS, for over forty-four years, the mission of the Louisiana Irish-Italian Parade has been to celebrate the heritage and traditions of two proud nationalities, provide a premier family-oriented event for the people of Jefferson Parish and visitors from around the country, and contribute annually to local nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, the parade is one of the largest in Metairie, drawing crowds of between two hundred fifty thousand and three hundred thousand spectators who gather early to secure their spots in anticipation of the floats, trucks, and marching groups that pass by and make "making groceries" a festive tradition; and

WHEREAS, each year two grand marshals are selected, one representing Irish heritage and the other representing Italian heritage; and

WHEREAS, for the Forty-Fourth Annual Irish-Italian Parade, Senate President Cameron Henry, Jr. was selected as the 2026 Irish Grand Marshal and Erik Youngblood was selected as the 2026 Italian Grand Marshal; and

WHEREAS, for the first time in parade history, the Louisiana State University Tiger Marching Band, also known as the Golden Band from Tigerland and a true crowd pleaser, made a roaring appearance to lead Grand Marshals Henry and Youngblood in the parade; and

WHEREAS, Senate President Cameron Henry's leadership, dedication to public service, and commitment to the people of Louisiana made him a fitting choice for the distinguished honor of serving as the 2026 Irish Grand Marshal.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Senate President Cameron Henry, Jr. for serving as the 2026 Irish Grand Marshal in the Forty-Fourth Annual Irish-Italian Parade in Metairie, Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE