

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 388

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

A RESOLUTION

To commend Wade Dubea on the occasion of his retirement from state service.

WHEREAS, Wade Dubea is a resident of New Roads and is married to Marjorie Dubea, with whom he has two daughters and two granddaughters; he and his wife are passionate about learning and teaching about the environment and nature, and he has been able to share this love through his storied career in forestry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea graduated with a bachelor of science degree in forestry from Louisiana State University; he returned to LSU to enter the College of Education's Alternative Certification program, where he earned a Louisiana Teacher Certification in secondary science; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea's career included work as a high school teacher and professional forester for private timber companies; after graduating from LSU, he worked as a forester in Texas and Louisiana, and his responsibilities included timber production, assessment, and mapping; as an educator, he taught biology and environmental science at a Baton Rouge high school; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea joined the staff of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry in 2001; he began as a forester in the Louisiana Forest Inventory Analysis Program and was promoted to the role of director of the Education Program; as director, he

provided Louisiana students and educators with forestry-related programs, including Louisiana Project Learning Tree and the Louisiana Forestry Educators Tour; he was later selected to serve as chief of the information and education branch of the office of forestry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea was selected as Louisiana's state forester by the Louisiana Forestry Commission in 2008; in this role, he served as the assistant commissioner of forestry within the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry and was responsible for protecting, managing, and promoting the state's forest resource; he served as a strategic planner, wildfire leader, educator, and liaison to promote protection, sustainability, and economic viability of the state's forest resource; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea became the longest-tenured state forester in the country in 2023 and has proudly held that distinction for the past three years; in the same year, he led wildfire suppression efforts in one of the state's most devastating wildfire events; he coordinated office of forestry personnel in cooperation with private, parish, state, and federal partners alongside structural firefighters and Louisiana National Guard personnel who worked diligently to control and suppress wildfires; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea received the Louisiana Distinguished Civilian Service Award for his efforts in wildfire suppression; the award is presented by the Adjutant General of the Louisiana National Guard on recommendation of an awards board to a civilian whose service is exceptional and has made significant contributions to the state's mission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea has since worked with employees and stakeholders to better prepare personnel and resources for future wildfire events; in this capacity, he recommended changes based on past experiences, training opportunities, education, and landowner outreach; he has worked diligently to maintain and enhance the office of forestry while operating within administrative and financial guidelines; and

WHEREAS, Wade Dubea is a distinguished leader and technical expert within the forestry industry, and after twenty-five years of dedicated service to the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry and to Louisiana citizens, he will retire from public service on August 20, 2026; he is deserving of recognition for his outstanding contributions to the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Wade Dubea on the occasion of his retirement from state service; does hereby express enduring appreciation for his dedication to Louisiana's forest resource; and does hereby extend sincere wishes that he remain prosperous in his endeavors.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES