

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 209

BY SENATORS PRESSLY, BASS, CATHEY, JENKINS, MILLER, MYERS,  
SEABAUGH AND TALBOT

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Sanil Savita Thorat on being recognized as Louisiana's 2026 Elementary Student of the Year.

WHEREAS, the state Department of Education and the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education have selected a Caddo Parish student as one of three 2026 Louisiana Students of the Year; and

WHEREAS, this year's elementary winner is Sanil Savita Thorat, a fifth grader at Fairfield Magnet School in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Sanil is an accomplished speller who has earned a place at the Scripps 2026 National Spelling Bee and received top honors at the regional level; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his educational accomplishments, he also previously completed the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten challenge, performs piano in recitals at venues including nursing homes and churches, has earned recognition in music competitions, and competes as a runner in track and field; and

WHEREAS, a day after learning the news of his achievement, Sanil was surprised with a pep rally at his school where he thanked his parents, older brothers, teachers, and classmates, and described the pep rally as a "great, great event"; and

WHEREAS, students of the year competitions require the students to first compete at the school system level and then advance to regional and state competition levels; and

WHEREAS, students are chosen based on criteria that measure academic achievements, leadership, character, and service to their school and community; and

WHEREAS, students are also evaluated based upon electronic portfolios, student writings, and interviews conducted to assess communication and critical thinking skills; and

WHEREAS, this ten year old describes his future plans by saying "My name, Sanil, in Sanskrit literally means gift, so I want to fulfill what my mom destined for me by being a gift to the world, and being a doctor is one of the best steps in trying to do that"; and

WHEREAS, he also aspires to volunteer with organizations focused on community wellness; and

WHEREAS, Sanil opened a small library with free books at the community garden where he volunteers; and

WHEREAS, a very grateful Sanil wants to thank Fairfield Magnet School, Caddo Parish, the state Department of Education, and the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education for the opportunities given to students through the Student of the Year competitions; and

WHEREAS, Sanil Savita Thorat has certainly earned the honor of this award and the acknowledgment of this awesome accomplishment.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Sanil Savita Thorat on being recognized as Louisiana's 2026 Elementary Student of the Year, does hereby record for posterity his accomplishment, and extends its best wishes for continued success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sanil Savita Thorat.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE