

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 132

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROSSETT

A RESOLUTION

To commend the United Way of Southeast Louisiana for outstanding community service, especially for its highly effective recovery and rebuilding activities in Southeast Louisiana during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and Hurricane Isaac, and to recognize its retiring chief executive officer, Mr. Gary Ostroske, for his leadership and service.

WHEREAS, the United Way of Southeast Louisiana serves the southeastern region of the state comprised of the parishes of Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, and Washington, and the mission of the United Way of Southeast Louisiana is to increase the organized capacity of the people to be independent and self-sufficient; and

WHEREAS, the United Way of Southeast Louisiana funds programs, supports collaborations, convenes experts, and fosters new and needed community services based upon best practices, and works to ensure quality health and human services for the citizens of the seven parish area and assesses the success of programs based upon the achievement of predefined outcomes; and these efforts have proven to be very successful in carrying out its mission; and

WHEREAS, services provided include educational programs serving thousands of youth, a comprehensive array of substance abuse and prevention services serving adults and youth, emergency and ongoing assistance with food needs for over a half million individuals and families, and programs designed to build stronger neighborhoods and communities; and

WHEREAS, United Way of Southeast Louisiana programs in 2010 addressed priorities such as housing, medical and mental health care, child and adult care, and academic supports and served over four hundred eighty thousand unduplicated clients; since Hurricane Katrina the United Way of Southeast Louisiana has made grants of over sixty-six

1 million dollars to area health and human service agencies, and the United Way of Southeast
2 Louisiana invests around eighteen million dollars per year in the region; and

3 WHEREAS, after Hurricane Katrina, the Select Committee on Hurricane Recovery
4 of the Louisiana Legislature observed firsthand the effective work of the United Way of
5 Southeast Louisiana to return citizens of Southeast Louisiana home to safe and affordable
6 housing and to build a stronger safety net of health and human services programs for citizens
7 struggling from the effects of the hurricane, as well as the productive recovery and
8 rebuilding efforts of the organization after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and Hurricane
9 Isaac; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Gary Ostroske, who is retiring as chief executive officer of the
11 United Way of Southeast Louisiana after twenty-five years in the position, has been the
12 extraordinary leader who has directed and guided these remarkable and life-saving activities,
13 and the legislature wishes to recognize and record his accomplishments and contributions
14 to Southeast Louisiana and the entire state.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the United Way of Southeast Louisiana for
17 outstanding community service which has improved the quality of life of thousands of
18 citizens and does especially recognize its highly effective recovery and rebuilding activities
19 in Southeast Louisiana during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Deepwater Horizon
20 oil spill, and Hurricane Isaac.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature
22 of Louisiana does also recognize and commend Mr. Gary Ostroske, retiring chief executive
23 officer of United Way of Southeast Louisiana, for his extraordinary leadership of the
24 organization and his productive service to the seven parish area and the state.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
to Mr. Gary Ostroske.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES