BY SENATOR LONG

## A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Earl J. "Mickey" Durand upon his election and installation as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana, Free and Accepted Masons for 2014-2015.

WHEREAS, Freemasonry has a long and rich history in Louisiana and has been a positive influence in our society for over two hundred years; and

WHEREAS, it is always good to recognize and commend those individuals who, during their life, especially exemplify the characteristics and actions of a good citizen and civic leader; and

WHEREAS, Earl J. "Mickey" Durand, a 33rd/ Scottish Rite Mason, was installed as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in the state of Louisiana, Free and Accepted Masons, at the 203rd annual Grand Communication at Bossier City, Louisiana, in February 2014; and

WHEREAS, for sixty-three years, in both Masonic and the appendant bodies of Masonry, Mickey Durand has served tirelessly and faithfully in numerous official positions including Worshipful Master of Anchor Lodge #268, where he holds perpetual membership; and also as treasurer and as president of the Masonic Building Association; Grand Tyler, Grand Junior Warden, Grand Senior Warden and Deputy Grand Master; and

WHEREAS, his zeal for the institution of Masonry has caused him to affiliate with various other appendant bodies such as the Order of DeMolay which he joined in 1951 at the age of thirteen; The Royal Arch, a degree which he received in June of 1967 at LaSalle Chapter No. 86 in Urania, Louisiana, where he served as High Priest in 1969; High Priest of Keystone Chapter #44 in Alexandria, Louisiana, in 1984; Grand High Priest for the state of Louisiana in 1994; and

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WHEREAS, Mickey also received the Council Degrees at Summit Council #12, Alexandria, Louisiana, in 1978; served as Illustrious Master in 1983; Illustrious Grand Master of Louisiana in 2002; was knighted in Trinity Commandery No. 8 in Alexandria, Louisiana, in October 1978, where he served as Commander in 1982 and 2003; served as Inspector General of the Grand Commandery in 2001; and was elected to the Grand Commandery Line in 2004 and served as Grand Commander in 2009-2010; and

WHEREAS, he is an active Shriner and has been a member of the El Karubah Shrine since 1978 serving in several positions; and

WHEREAS, Earl J. "Mickey" Durand has spent his life inculcating the Masonic ideals of friendship, morality, and brotherly love, and generously sharing his personal belief in the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of all men; and

WHEREAS, Earl J. "Mickey" Durand has been a successful businessman, community activist, committed father, and faithful husband who upholds the Masonic concepts of self-improvement and charity to others as part of his daily life; and

WHEREAS, these Masonic ideals and his personal character traits are universally recognized by all good people as a positive influence in human society; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depends, in great measure, upon the dedication of extraordinary men of great character like Earl J. "Mickey" Durand.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Earl J. "Mickey" Durand on his election and ascension to the Grand East as the Most Worshipful Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the State of Louisiana, Free and Accepted Masons, and wish for him much success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to Earl J. "Mickey" Durand.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE