

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 22

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDWARDS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Sister Vera Butler upon being named Hibernian of the Year by the Louisiana Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

WHEREAS, the Ancient Order of Hibernians was established in 1565 when every effort was being made by the English government to strike intelligence, patriotism, and civilization from the minds of native Irish; and

WHEREAS, the Ancient Order of Hibernians was organized in America on May 4, 1836, in New York City at St. James Church, and founded in New Orleans in 1876 despite contending with difficulties during its early existence in this country; and

WHEREAS, the Ancient Order of Hibernians aims to protect the priesthood and their sacred duties, along with the execution of those rites and ceremonies that are instituted by the Catholic Church for observance by the faithful throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, the preservation of the Catholic religion in Ireland is due in large measure to the Ancient Order of Hibernians; and

WHEREAS, the Ancient Order of Hibernians has continued to grow and prosper, while becoming the largest and most influential body of men of Irish lineage in the world; and

WHEREAS, the Ancient Order of Hibernians is an American fraternal organization that aims to assist honorably and peacefully by promoting the interests and welfare of persons with Irish heritage; and

WHEREAS, each year, the Ancient Order of Hibernians selects one person who best represents the Order and its core beliefs; and

WHEREAS, Sister Vera Butler has been selected by the Louisiana Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians as "Hibernian of the Year"; and

WHEREAS, Sister Vera Butler was born in Portmagee, County Kerry, Ireland, where she taught until 1970; and

WHEREAS, Sister Vera Butler became a founding sister of the Presentation Sisters' mission in Colorado, she taught and managed the Presentation Sisters' boarding school for high school girls in Ireland, and she served as a school principal in Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Sister Vera Butler helps rebuild lives through her encouraging, comforting, and compassionate presence; and

WHEREAS, in New Orleans, Sister Vera Butler first served as the Development Director for the congregation's U.S. Province and later became the Outreach Coordinator for St. Joseph's Church, a position she held for fifteen years; and

WHEREAS, Sister Vera Butler was instrumental in establishing the Rebuild Center, a full service day facility located behind St. Joseph's Church that offers support to impoverished people; and

WHEREAS, Sister Vera Butler's unbreakable faith fuels her positive energy and drive; and

WHEREAS, Sister Vera Butler and her fellow sisters strongly believe that their lives are enriched by the work they do with hundreds of people in need who visit the Rebuild Center.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Sister Vera Butler on being named "Hibernian of the Year" by the Louisiana Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sister Vera Butler.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES