

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 99

BY SENATORS ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dorothy Bell Jeter Bauer for her brave and faithful service to the United States during World War II as a member of the U.S. Navy's WAVES.

WHEREAS, Dorothy Bell Jeter Bauer is a native of Castor, Louisiana, who moved to Baton Rouge in 1938, and graduated from Istrouma High School in 1941, just as World War II was raging across the globe; and

WHEREAS, on January 9, 1945, Mrs. Bauer enlisted in the U.S. Navy's Women Approved for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) and headed for Hunter College in the Bronx, New York, for basic training; and

WHEREAS, she later transferred to Flight Orderly Training School at the Naval Air Station in Olathe, Kansas, and trained successfully to become a flight crew member of the Naval Air Transport Squadron; and

WHEREAS, when Mrs. Bauer completed her training, she received orders to transfer to Air Squadron 1 in Patuxent River, Maryland; and

WHEREAS, during Mrs. Bauer's service, she participated in international flights to Newfoundland, the West Indies, Puerto Rico, and Bermuda, as well as many domestic flights along the east coast and California, averaging about one hundred hours of flight time each month; and

WHEREAS, she saw the terrible results of war as many of her passengers were wounded military personnel from the war in the South Pacific; and

WHEREAS, during Mrs. Bauer's dedicated service for her homeland, she was one of only about three hundred female flight orderlies in the entire Navy, and she took special pride in knowing that she was performing a critical job for America during some of the darkest moments of the war; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bauer would meet and marry Navy aviation machinist Thomas F. Bauer in 1947, and follow him as he continued to serve and make the Navy his career; and

WHEREAS, she received an Honorable Discharge on March 21, 1947, at the Naval Air Station at Patuxent River, Maryland, but she remained a military wife until her husband retired in 1961 and they returned to Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bauer worked at Moore Products Company until she joined her husband in retirement and together they raised a family of three children: Stan, who made the Navy his career; Keith, who retired from the Baton Rouge Police Department and currently works with Louisiana Senate Security; and Tanya, who currently works for the Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bauer lost her beloved husband in 1992 when he succumbed to cancer, but her life has been full, blessed with five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren who always provide her with their stories and their love; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Bauer has also remained an active member of the Greenwell Springs Baptist Church and military organizations such as the Navy Club, Fleet Reserve Association, American Legion, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its highest commendations and its sincere gratitude to Dorothy Bell Jeter Bauer for her service in the highly important and dangerous air missions she flew during World War II in support of American troops as a member of the United States Navy WAVES.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dorothy Bell Jeter Bauer and her family.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE