BY SENATORS CORTEZ, ALLAIN, GUILLORY, LAFLEUR, MILLS, MORRISH AND PERRY

## A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Mike Rhodes for his strong dedication and hard work in the Special Olympics Louisiana Program and as an athletics coach in the 2014 Special Olympics USA Games.

WHEREAS, Special Olympics Louisiana is a statewide organization that changes lives by promoting understanding, acceptance, and inclusion between people with and without intellectual disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics Louisiana offers year-round programs for 14,200 children and adults with intellectual disabilities in all sixty-four parishes with the help of 15,000 volunteers; and

WHEREAS, Special Olympics Louisiana selected a delegation of sixteen athletes, ten unified partners, and eight coaches from the Acadiana Area to attend the third Special Olympics USA Games held on June 14-21, 2014, in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Acadiana Area brought home a total of twenty Gold medals, five Silver medals, nine Bronze medals, nine fourth place ribbons, two fifth place ribbons, one seventh place ribbon, one eighth place ribbon, and one participation ribbon, totaling forty-eight awards; and

WHEREAS, these Special Olympics Louisiana athletes, unified partners, and coaches have exhibited great sportsmanship, talent, and respect and have represented Louisiana with honor and pride.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby commends Mike Rhodes for his strong dedication and hard work in the Special Olympics Louisiana Program and as an athletics coach in the 2014 Special Olympics USA Games.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mike Rhodes.