

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 84

BY SENATORS THOMPSON AND WALSWORTH

A RESOLUTION

To commend Madison Elise Nelson for being named Louisiana's 2017 Middle School Student of the Year by the Louisiana Department of Education.

WHEREAS, every year the Louisiana Department of Education selects and recognizes a student in fifth grade, a student in eighth grade, and a student in twelfth grade as the state's outstanding Student of the Year based on criteria that measures academic achievement, leadership skills, character, and service to their schools and communities; and

WHEREAS, in determining the three recipients of this prestigious award, the State Student Achievement Selection Committee considers resumes, conducts interviews, and reviews writing samples of each finalist from the seven different regions of the state; and

WHEREAS, the eighth grade student selected as the 2017 Louisiana Middle School Student of the Year is Ouachita Junior High School's Madison Elise Nelson, Ouachita Parish's first Student of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Miss Nelson has maintained a 4.0 grade point average in the Honors Program, while serving as president of the Student Council, the Junior Honor Society, and the 4-H Club, and serving as a member of the National Junior Honor Society, the Fellowship of Christian Students, and the Beta Club; and

WHEREAS, Miss Nelson is also a member of the Girl Scouts and is actively involved with the True Vine Baptist Church where she acts, sings in the choir, and participates in youth group activities including canned food drives, vigils and events, Christmas donation drives for children in need, community beautification efforts, visits to nursing homes, and serves as a mentor to at-risk youth, along with many other activities; and

WHEREAS, Miss Nelson is also a gifted dancer and has served as the co-captain and line leader for her school dance team and also dances for the Delta Academy Dance Studio; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of Miss Nelson's accomplishments, she has received numerous awards for her academic achievement and community service, including being named as a Duke Scholar and a finalist for the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Scholarship, selected to attend a math and science summer program at Xavier University, and many other awards for her grade point average, her oration skills, and her craft; and

WHEREAS, Miss Nelson is a gifted Louisiana student who demonstrates impeccable character, sound leadership skills, and a commitment to excellence that is truly commendable, and is most deserving of being named as one of Louisiana's best and brightest as the 2017 Louisiana Middle School Student of the Year.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Madison Elise Nelson for being named Louisiana's 2017 Middle School Student of the Year by the Louisiana Department of Education.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Madison Elise Nelson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE