

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY REPRESENTATIVE BISHOP

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Christopher F. D'Elia on his receipt of the "Wes Tunnell Lifetime Recognition for Gulf Science and Conservation"

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Christopher F. D'Elia, dean of the Louisiana State University College of the
3 Coast and Environment and professor of oceanography and coastal sciences, upon
4 his receipt in 2019 of the first ever awarded "Wes Tunnell Lifetime Recognition for
5 Gulf Science and Conservation".

6 WHEREAS, at the 2019 Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science
7 Conference held in New Orleans in February of 2019, the Gulf of Mexico University
8 Research Collaborative presented to Christopher F. D'Elia, dean of the Louisiana State
9 University College of the Coast and Environment and professor of oceanography and coastal
10 sciences, the first "Wes Tunnell Lifetime Recognition for Gulf Science and Conservation"
11 award, named in honor of Dr. John Wesley "Wes" Tunnell Jr., a prolific marine ecologist
12 and biologist in the Life Sciences Department of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and
13 Endowed Chair of Biodiversity and Conservation Science at the Harte Research Institute for
14 Gulf of Mexico Studies; and

15 WHEREAS, Christopher F. D'Elia, dean of the Louisiana State University College
16 of the Coast and Environment and professor of oceanography and coastal sciences, was
17 recognized by the Gulf of Mexico University Research Collaborative for his lifetime of
18 dedication and achievement in support of a healthy and sustainable Gulf of Mexico
19 environment and economy; and

20 WHEREAS, Louisiana State University has a coastal legacy dating back nearly a
21 century and is at the forefront of coastal and environmental discoveries and research on
22 every continent; where more than two hundred faculty members teach and equip nearly one

1 thousand graduates per year with the multidisciplinary tools needed to address coastal,
2 marine, energy, and environmental issues; and

3 WHEREAS, Louisiana State University is recognized globally as a renowned leader
4 in educating the coastal workforce and for providing the gold-standard for coastal and
5 environmental science, investigation, and expertise; and

6 WHEREAS, the college's Coastal Environmental Science program proudly boasts
7 that, to date, one hundred percent of its undergraduates acquire employment or acceptance
8 into graduate or professional programs within two months of graduation; and

9 WHEREAS, Christopher F. D'Elia, the university's longest-serving dean, has served
10 as professor and dean of the College of the Coast and Environment since 2009 and has
11 brought passion, experience, and leadership to his position; and

12 WHEREAS, during Christopher F. D'Elia's tenure as dean, he has expanded the
13 School of the Coast and Environment into a college and has established an award-winning
14 outreach program with students from Scotlandville Magnet High School to pair students
15 underrepresented in the sciences with college mentors who help the students complete
16 environmental research projects and pursue college scholarships; and

17 WHEREAS, Christopher F. D'Elia has performed outstanding community service
18 through his participation in more than twenty professional and outreach organizations, has
19 held numerous research grants, and has authored or coauthored more than sixty scientific
20 publications on the nutrient dynamics of estuaries and coral reefs, science policy and energy,
21 and the environment.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
23 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Christopher F. D'Elia on receiving the "Wes
24 Tunnell Lifetime Recognition for Gulf Science and Conservation" and wishes him the best
25 in his future endeavors.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
27 to Christopher F. D'Elia, dean of the Louisiana State University College of the Coast and
28 Environment.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 34 Original

2019 Regular Session

Bishop

Commends Christopher F. D'Elia, dean of the LSU College of the Coast and Environment and professor of oceanography and coastal sciences, on receipt of the "Wes Tunnell Lifetime Recognition for Gulf Science and Conservation".