

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 277

BY SENATOR BISHOP

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Michael Daniel Nelson on being named the Teacher of the Year for 2018-2019 by the Jefferson Parish School System.

WHEREAS, Michael Daniel Nelson was born August 3, 1967 in New Orleans Louisiana, grew up in the Uptown area of New Orleans, and attended McDonogh #35 Senior High School; and

WHEREAS, after participating in the marching band for four years and graduating with the class of 1985, Mr. Nelson joined the United States Army active duty and performed Basic Training in Ft. Bliss, Texas; and

WHEREAS, after serving two years in Germany, he returned home joined the Louisiana National Guard and enrolled at Southern University at New Orleans, earning a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a minor in Economics in 1993; and

WHEREAS, after five years of working in several positions with Gulf Coast Bank & Trust, Mr. Nelson pursued employment in education as a Jobs for America's Graduates Job Specialist, began work at Walter L. Cohen, and in 1999, transferred to L.W. Higgins High School in Marrero, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson simultaneously continued his military career with the United States Army Reserves as a Master Sergeant with the 377th TSC and First Sergeant with the 469th Finance Group; in 2003 Mr. Nelson was headed on his first deployment to Kuwait and Iraq for the Operation Enduring Freedom tour; and

WHEREAS, as a veteran and currently serving thirty-four total years in the United States Armed Services, his achievements include: recipient of the Army Commendation Medal, recipient of the Army Achievement Medal, recipient of the Good Conduct Medal,

recipient of the Army Meritorious Unit Award, recipient of the Unit Citation Award, Primary Leadership Development Course (PLDC), Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course (BNCOC), Advanced Non Commissioned Officer Course (ANCOC), recipient of a General Officer's Coin, recipient of a Command Sergeant Major's Coin, and obtained the Operational Contract Support (Military Occupation Skill) MOS ASIC Identifier; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson continued employment with the Jefferson Parish Public School System and earned several accomplishments with the JAG (Jobs For America's Graduates) Program; as a Job Specialist, Mr Nelson teaches 37 core competencies that enhance employability skills and his students are engaged with community service, fundraising events, field trips and guest speakers; and

WHEREAS, he is a recipient of the Mayor's Community Service Award; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Nelson accomplished National JAG's 5 of 5 Outcome in 2008, 2009, 2010, 2012, 2016, 2017, and 2018, was noted as an Outstanding Job Specialist at the National Training Seminar in 2006, 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2018, and received the JAG Patriot Award in 2005; and

WHEREAS, he attained graduation rates of 94% and higher since 2001 and 100% in 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2016, 2017 and 2018, is a mentor for Job Specialist in the state of Louisiana and across America, propelled the Higgins Career Association to one of the best JAG sites in the state of Louisiana, and earned 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards in Employability Skills at the Louisiana Career Development Conferences; and

WHEREAS, Michael Dennis Nelson is an accomplished educator with demonstrated ability to teach, motivate, and direct students and adults while maintaining high interest and achievement, an articulate communicator able to effectively interact with diverse populations of individuals at a variety of academic levels who consistently maintains excellent relations with students, parents, faculty, and administrators, is self-motivated, and who possesses strong planning, organizational, and leadership skills; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Michael Nelson resides on the Westbank of New Orleans, is married to Sheree T. Nelson, his high school sweetheart and mother of his two lovely daughters Zhane' Racquel Nelson and Zaria Monet Nelson, and he also has a son, Jemell Michael Nelson; and

WHEREAS, on February 9, 2019 he was named Teacher of the Year for 2018-2019 by the Jefferson Parish School System.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Michael Daniel Nelson on being named the Teacher of the Year for 2018-2019 by the Jefferson Parish School System.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Michael Daniel Nelson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE