

2021 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 109

BY SENATOR CORTEZ

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Secretary of the Senate Yolanda J. Dixon on being selected as one of the 2021 Influential Women in Business by the Greater Baton Rouge Business Report.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Secretary of the Senate Yolanda J. Dixon on being selected as one of the 2021
3 Influential Women in Business by the *Greater Baton Rouge Business Report*.

4 WHEREAS, each year the *Greater Baton Rouge Business Report* selects and honors
5 women from throughout the Capital Region who have distinguished themselves and
6 influenced others through their professional and community lives; and

7 WHEREAS, the honorees are selected from nominations received and evaluated by
8 a panel of more than fifty community and business leaders as to the nominee's character,
9 credentials, and accomplishments; and

10 WHEREAS, the class of 2021 honorees include New Orleans native, Secretary of the
11 Senate Yolanda J. Dixon; and

12 WHEREAS, after a brief time working as an attorney with the Louisiana Department
13 of Justice, Secretary Dixon began her career with the Senate in 1988 as committee staff; she
14 was promoted to senior staff in 1995; and in 2004, she was appointed First Assistant
15 Secretary of the Senate; and

16 WHEREAS, in January of 2020, Mrs. Yolanda J. Dixon was elected by the members
17 of the Senate as the twenty-eighth Secretary of the Senate since 1812, and she is the first
18 woman and first person of color elected by the body to that position; and

1 WHEREAS, during her tenure as First Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Dixon was
2 recognized by her peers from across the United States as an elected associate member and
3 associate vice president of the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretaries
4 (ASLCS), as a recipient of ASLCS' 2018 Legislative Staff Achievement Award, and as a
5 member of the National Conference of State Legislatures' Masons' Manual Commission; and

6 WHEREAS, Secretary Dixon is as dedicated to her community as she is to her career
7 as evidenced by her service in numerous organizations and on nonprofit boards; and

8 WHEREAS, Yolanda began volunteering in the community while attending
9 University of Colorado at Boulder as an undergraduate through her college sorority, Delta
10 Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; and

11 WHEREAS, in 1994, she added to her volunteering efforts by becoming an active
12 member of the Junior League of Baton Rouge to which she was elected President in 2002;
13 the first woman of African decent elected to that position in the league's seventy year
14 history, and has since been followed by several other women of color to that position; and

15 WHEREAS, following her passion for the arts and improving the quality of life in
16 her community, Yolanda has also served two terms as chair of the board of directors of the
17 Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, as president of the Baton Rouge Chapter of The Links,
18 Incorporated, and as a member of the East Baton Rouge School System Tax Oversight
19 Committee and the board of Woman's Hospital in Baton Rouge, and she is currently serving
20 as an officer on the board of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Secretary Dixon makes a personal effort daily to help people in need
23 and to encourage young women to take charge of their destinies and to own their life
24 journeys, believing that of one "to whom much is given, much is required"; and

25 WHEREAS, as anyone who has worked with her at the Senate or volunteered or
26 served with her in the community can attest, her intellect, wit, grace, work ethic, and
27 compassion for others are both inspiring and motivating; and

28 WHEREAS, Secretary Dixon is truly deserving of recognition and honor for her
29 character, credentials, and accomplishments that make her one of the greater Baton Rouge
30 area's most influential women in business and a source of pride for her family, friends, and

