

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY SENATOR BASS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Sonja Bailes on her selection as a 2024 Virginia K. Shehee Most Influential Woman by Holy Angels.

WHEREAS, Sonja Bailes is one of six honorees who were selected as 2024 Virginia K. Shehee Most Influential Woman by Holy Angels; the award honors women who have made significant contributions by providing their expertise, time, and resources to serve their community; the women selected have shown a commitment to philanthropy by helping children, the elderly, those in need, the arts, business development, education, or other acts of caring through unpaid positions; and

WHEREAS, Sonja graduated from Louisiana Tech University in 1992 with a journalism degree; she spent twenty years in broadcast news at KNOE-TV in Monroe and KTBS-3 in Shreveport; Ms. Bailes left broadcast news twelve years ago to become the public relations liaison at Bossier Schools; she is passionate about elevating the voice of those serving as educators; Sonja finds purpose in mentoring young adults to be the best versions of themselves; and

WHEREAS, aside from her professional accomplishments, Sonja is actively involved in community service and dedicates much of her spare time to nonprofit organizations; she volunteers with the Commission for Women of Bossier City, for which she co-chairs the mentorship program, serves on the board for Dress for Success Shreveport-Bossier, and works closely with Bossier Youth Leadership; and

WHEREAS, Sonja serves as vice president of The Salvation Army's advisory board and the Bossier Parish Community College Foundation; she is an advisory board member with SciPort Discovery Center and Keep Bossier Beautiful; and

WHEREAS, Sonja's professional engagement includes membership in the National School Public Relations Association, the Shreveport Journalism Foundation, the Northwest Louisiana chapter of the Public Relations Association of Louisiana, and the Bossier Optimist Club; and

WHEREAS, Sonja Bailes is most deserving of the highest recognition for her incredible accomplishments and for her unrelenting dedication to the service of her community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Sonja Bailes on her selection as a 2024 Virginia K. Shehee Most Influential Woman by Holy Angels; and does hereby further recognize Sonja's commitment to providing her expertise, time, and resources to serve her community and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sonja Bailes.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE