

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 40

BY SENATOR ALLAIN

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Kenneth Gravois on his appointment to the American Sugar Cane League Chair in Sugar Production.

WHEREAS, Dr. Kenneth Gravois, a lifelong student and servant of Louisiana's sugarcane industry, has been named to the prestigious American Sugar Cane League Chair in Sugar Production by the LSU AgCenter; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gravois' journey began as a young boy on a sugarcane farm, where his early fascination with the crop was sparked by reading the *Sugar Bulletin* and attending field days that connected him to the very heart of Louisiana's sugarcane community; and

WHEREAS, he pursued his academic and professional journey with distinction, earning a PhD in crop science and contributing to agricultural research through his early work in rice breeding with the University of Arkansas, before returning to Louisiana to lead sugarcane breeding programs for the LSU AgCenter; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gravois has served as Louisiana's sugarcane specialist, dedicating decades to improving sugarcane varieties, addressing disease threats, and advancing the science of sustainable and productive sugarcane agriculture; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the American Sugar Cane League Chair in Sugar Production - made possible by the vision, commitment, and investment of Louisiana's sugarcane growers and millers - ensures that agricultural research will continue to play a central role in the industry's growth and resilience; and

WHEREAS, the American Sugar Cane League, in partnership with LSU and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has long championed innovation through the three-way agreement, which Dr. Gravois has played a central role in advancing to the benefit of farmers and the broader economy; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gravois' leadership has contributed to the dramatic increase in sugarcane yield over the past century, the successful combatting of major crop diseases, and the transformation of sugarcane into a billion-dollar industry in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gravois has also inspired future generations of scientists and agricultural leaders through his dedication to education, research, and collaboration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Kenneth Gravois on his appointment to the American Sugar Cane League Chair in Sugar Production and his exceptional service, leadership and lifelong contributions to Louisiana's sugarcane industry.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE