

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 157

BY SENATOR JOHNS

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Willie Landry Mount on being conferred an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by McNeese State University.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Willie Landry Mount on being conferred an honorary Doctorate of Humane
3 Letters by McNeese State University.

4 WHEREAS, the Doctorate of Humane Letters is the highest honor that the university
5 can bestow upon an individual; and

6 WHEREAS, the honorary degree was conferred upon Willie Landry Mount at the
7 one hundred forty-sixth commencement ceremony of McNeese State University on May 14,
8 2016; and

9 WHEREAS, Ms. Mount is a successful business owner, outstanding civic leader, a
10 distinguished former mayor, former state senator, and an ardent supporter of McNeese State
11 University; and

12 WHEREAS, she received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from
13 McNeese State University in 1974, serves on the McNeese Foundation Board of Directors,
14 is a recipient of the McNeese Distinguished Alumni Award, and has been inducted into the
15 McNeese College of Business Hall of Fame; and

16 WHEREAS, Ms. Mount was the first female mayor of the city of Lake Charles and
17 served in that capacity for six and one-half years before becoming the first female elected
18 to represent District 27 in the Louisiana Senate; and

1 WHEREAS, she served three terms in the Senate, from 2000-2012, and in her third
2 term she chaired the Health and Welfare Committee, was a member of the Transportation,
3 Highways, and Public Works and Judiciary C committees, Legislative Audit Advisory
4 Council, and served on the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, Select Committee
5 on Women and Children, Select Committee on Coastal Restoration and Flood Control, Child
6 Poverty Prevention Council, Health Committee of the National Conference of State
7 Legislatures, Southern Growth Policies Board, and Louisiana Health Works Commission,
8 and was an interim member of the Senate Committee on Finance; and

9 WHEREAS, Ms. Mount previously served as the chair of the Revenue and Fiscal
10 Affairs Committee, as vice-chair of the Education Committee, and was a member of a
11 number of committees, including Senate Select Committee on Consumer Affairs, Judiciary
12 B, State Technology Advisory, Millennium Port, Dyslexia Study Committee, Reading
13 Leadership Team, Joint Legislative Juvenile Justice, School Finance Review, Commission
14 on French, and the Commission on Best Practices in School Discipline; and

15 WHEREAS, she has been very active in a variety of civic and community betterment
16 projects, including past president of the Louisiana Conference of Mayors and as a member
17 on the executive boards of the Louisiana Municipal Association and the Council for a Better
18 Louisiana; and

19 WHEREAS, she also serves on the Christus St. Patrick Board of Councilors, and
20 previously served on the United Way Community Foundation, Prevent Child Abuse
21 Louisiana Board, United Methodist Foundation, and Alzheimer's Association State Board;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, because of Ms. Mount's leadership, she has been awarded the
24 Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Boy Scouts, Public Official of the Year by the
25 Msgr. Cramers Knights of Columbus, National Association of Social Workers, and
26 Louisiana Association of Museums, Woman of the Year by the Quota Club, and Citizen of
27 the Year by the Kiwanis Club of Lake Charles, and U.S. Marine Corps League; and

28 WHEREAS, she also received the Community Service Award from the North Lake
29 Charles Kiwanis Club, the Doretha Combre Award from the National Association for the
30 Advancement of Colored People, and the Patron of Architecture Award from the Louisiana

1 Architectural Foundation; and

2 WHEREAS, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International honored her with its Golden
3 Apple Award and the Junior League of Lake Charles honored her as the 2004 Sustainer of
4 the Year; and

5 WHEREAS, Ms. Mount was named a Special Friend of the Louisiana Municipal
6 Association in 2002, 2003, and 2004 and was recognized by the New Orleans Regional
7 Chamber and Metro Vision for her efforts during the 2003 legislative session; and

8 WHEREAS, she was also named Champion for Children by Prevent Child Abuse
9 Louisiana, in addition to receiving the Ron Schroeder Award from the MicroEnterprise
10 Development Alliance of Louisiana and the Wilton J. Bellard Jr. Champion Award from the
11 Southwest Louisiana Center for Health Services; and

12 WHEREAS, Ms. Mount has been recognized as Legislator of the Year by the
13 Louisiana Orthopaedic Association, the Louisiana Association of Principals, the Louisiana
14 Partnership for Children and Families, and the Childcare Association of Louisiana, and was
15 selected as a recipient of the Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities Legislative Award
16 in 2007, the Leadership in the Community Award by Women of Excellence, the Christus
17 Health Eagle Award in 2008, and the LegisGator Champion Award in 2008 and 2009; and

18 WHEREAS, she received the Chamber Southwest Louisiana Chairman's Award in
19 2009, the Senator Diana Bajoie Award, the LegisGator Business Champion Award in 2010
20 and 2011, and was the Nurse Family Partnership Legislative Champion for 2010; and

21 WHEREAS, Ms. Mount has received the 2010 Louisiana Family Forum Family
22 Advocate Award and was honored by the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program; and

23 WHEREAS, in 2011, she received the LegisGator Legacy of Service Award and the
24 Public Service Award from the Southwest Louisiana Convention and Visitors Bureau, and
25 in recent years she was given the Junior League of Lake Charles Della Krause Theilen
26 Voluntarism Award, named a Pinnacle Light of Hope Honoree, and had her lifelong
27 commitment to philanthropy honored during National Philanthropy Day; and

28 WHEREAS, Ms. Mount has served as an outstanding leader in civic and professional
29 organizations through her service on a multitude of boards and organizations at the local and
30 state levels, including the Calcasieu Community Clinic, Library Board of Control for the

1 Calcasieu Parish Public Library, Lakeside Bank, National Hurricane Museum and Science
2 Center, Lake Area Medical Center, Friends of Louisiana Public Broadcasting, Louisiana
3 Conference Board of Laity, Louisiana Nurse Family Partnership, the Cenikor Foundation,
4 LEH, Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Lake Charles Symphony, Free
5 to Breathe, Lake Charles Country Club, First United Methodist Church, GO Group-Special
6 Initiatives Task Force, the Southwest Louisiana Charter Academy Foundation Inc., and the
7 Louisiana Trust for Historic Preservation; and

8 WHEREAS, Ms. Mount merits the highest measure of commendation and most
9 sincere congratulations on her outstanding accomplishments and contributions to her
10 community and to the state of Louisiana and its citizens.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
12 does hereby commend and congratulate Willie Landry Mount on being conferred the
13 honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters by McNeese State University and for her tireless
14 dedication and exemplary public service, and does hereby record for posterity the pride and
15 honor that she brings to her family, friends, community, the state of Louisiana, and the
16 United States.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
18 Willie Landry Mount.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

DIGEST

SR 157 Original 2016 Regular Session Johns

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