A RESOLUTION

To recognize Tuesday, May 23, 2017, as Forum 35 Day at the state capitol and to commend the members of Forum 35.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend the members of Forum 35, a young professional organization dedicated to improving and shaping Baton Rouge, for their dedication to their core pillars of arts and culture, leadership, and cultural diversity; and

WHEREAS, founded in 1993, Forum 35 has inspired young professionals to become more involved with philanthropic organizations and activities; and

WHEREAS, throughout the past twenty-four years, Forum 35 has expanded membership to over 400 members and 20 corporate partners; and

WHEREAS, Forum 35 hosts and participates in many valuable initiatives and events including Art Melt; Forum Friday; John W. Barton, Sr. Community Leadership Development Program; Uncorked; Reindeer Run; Public Education Project; Leadership Hour; Service Committee projects; cultural diversity forums; and various member socials; and

WHEREAS, Forum 35 is committed to community service and actively contributes to the educational, civic, and social life of the citizens of Baton Rouge and Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Forum 35 members regularly speak out on major issues and volunteer thousands of hours in the community; and

WHEREAS, as part of the new strategic plan, in 2017 Forum 35 began implementing a new corporate partnership development model to bolster the organization's ability to serve as a recruitment, retention, and development tool of young professionals for corporations in the Capital Region; and

WHEREAS, Forum 35 does not endorse candidates for public office, but does encourage its members to vote, regardless of individual political beliefs; and

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WHEREAS, Forum 35 Day at the state capitol allows members to speak with their legislators to address issues pertinent to the Baton Rouge community and the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Tuesday, May 23, 2017, as Forum 35 Day at the Louisiana State Capitol and does hereby commend and express enduring appreciation to the members of Forum 35 for the tremendous honor and pride that they bring to the Baton Rouge community and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Forum 35 board of directors.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE