

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 218

BY SENATOR ERDEY

A RESOLUTION

To commend Joshua Ballard upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend and celebrate the accomplishments of Joshua Ballard of Boy Scouts of America Troop 42 on the memorable and historic occasion of his attainment of the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Boy Scouts of America, founded on February 8, 1910, and chartered by the United States Congress in 1916, is to provide an educational program for boys and young adults to build character, to train in the responsibilities of participating in citizenship, and to develop personal fitness; and

WHEREAS, to earn the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Scouting, a Boy Scout must fulfill all requirements of leadership, service, and outdoor skills; an Eagle Scout must earn twenty-one merit badges which signify the mastery of Scouting skills, including Citizenship in the Community, Citizenship in the Nation, and Citizenship in the World; and

WHEREAS, Joshua earned a total of thirty-three merit badges and earned his Firem'n Chit and Totin' Chip; and

WHEREAS, his Eagle project was restoring the Kids Korner playground that flooded during Louisiana's Great Flood of 2016; and

WHEREAS, only a small percentage of Boy Scouts attain the Eagle Scout rank; it takes a uniquely motivated man to achieve the five important responsibilities of an Eagle Scout, which are honor, loyalty, courage, cheer, and service to God and country, and Joshua Ballard embodies these ideals; and

WHEREAS, presented with his Eagle Scout badge, Joshua Ballard joins the ranks of esteemed and respected Eagle Scouts such as the Honorable Gerald R. Ford, the thirty-eighth president of the United States; Captain James Lovell, the commander of the Apollo 13 space flight; Neil Armstrong, the first man to walk on the moon; acclaimed filmmaker Steven Spielberg; and Bill Gates, the founder of Microsoft; and

WHEREAS, the legacy of the Boy Scouts is indeed a rich one, for it not only includes a history of service and proud citizenship which spans a century, but it also includes the history of service and singular accomplishments of Joshua Ballard, a young man to be recognized and commended by future Eagle Scouts and his community for the deep human values and genuine spirit of good fellowship that he inspires.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and honor Joshua Ballard on the historic occasion of his attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout; does hereby express utmost gratitude and respect for the exemplary strides he has taken as a Scout and a citizen; does hereby congratulate Joshua Ballard and the members and leaders of Troop 42 as they commemorate the significant event of Mr. Ballard's pledge of eternal loyalty to the code of the Eagle Scout; and does hereby extend best wishes to Joshua Ballard for full measures of happiness and success in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Joshua Ballard.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE