

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 94

BY SENATOR PEACOCK AND REPRESENTATIVES CARMODY AND SEABAUGH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Caddo Magnet High School senior, Sunjay Letchuman of Shreveport, upon his selection as the 2018 High School Student of the Year by the Louisiana Department of Education and to note his extraordinary accomplishments.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the Legislature of Louisiana recognizes the energy, intelligence, and achievements of Sunjay Letchuman, a high school senior and a dynamic young man who has demonstrated excellence in academic achievement, medical research, community service, and citizenship; and

WHEREAS, contestants are chosen from each of three categories, high school, middle school, and elementary school; and

WHEREAS, 2018 Student of the Year winners are chosen from a list of twenty-one regional finalists from all seven regions of the state and represent both public and private schools; the selection process requires submission of a resume of accomplishments, samples of essay writings, and interviews conducted by selection committee members who assess the communication and critical-thinking skills of each candidate; and

WHEREAS, the "Louisiana Believes" program that honors the scholastic abilities of these exceptional students is sponsored by the Louisiana Department of Education, and on April 11, 2018, presentations were made at an awards ceremony held at the Louisiana State Museum in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, Sunjay had previously competed in the program as an eighth grader and won the 2014 Caddo Parish Middle School Student of the Year award; and

WHEREAS, Sunjay is also particularly commended for his attention to academics by maintaining a 4.0 grade point average and earning a thirty-five (35) on the ACT college

entrance exam; he is a National Merit Scholarship semifinalist and an Advanced Placement Scholarship participant; and

WHEREAS, with numerous honors for academic endeavors and extracurricular activities which include selection as a finalist in the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology, as a second-place winner of the 2018 Louisiana Region I Science and Engineering Fair, and as a first-place winner in the 2018 Louisiana Junior Science and Humanities Symposium; Sunjay Letchuman exemplifies the finest qualities of scholarship; and

WHEREAS, he possess a keen interest in the advanced study of biomedical engineering as a research student at the Biomedical Research Foundation (BRF) and at the LSU Health Science Center (Shreveport) Science and Medicine Academic Research Training Program (SMART); and

WHEREAS, Sunjay will compete in the International Science and Engineering Fair held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in May; and

WHEREAS, at BRF, his scientific research project titled "Differential Redox Profiles of Veins and Arteries Associated with Coronary Artery Bypass Graft Failure" focuses on the investigation of the systemic failure of coronary artery grafts over time; and

WHEREAS, Sunjay takes an active leadership role in organizations at Caddo Magnet High School such as Mock Trial Club, Key Club International, and the Asian Studies Association; and

WHEREAS, as a well-rounded student, Sunjay places academics as a top priority; however, he balances his schedule with athletics that include tennis and cross-country track and with leisure pursuits such as board games, gardening, and chess; and

WHEREAS, he volunteers his time at the Overton Brooks Veterans Administration Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, as a published writer, Sunjay has penned a guide to personal finance and consumer credit for young adults titled "Handbook of Essentials that Every High Schooler Needs to Know: About Finance and Much More!"; and

WHEREAS, with a bright future ahead, Sunjay is considering several career paths with interests in medicine, biomedical research or engineering, and finance; and

WHEREAS, Sunjay Letchuman is a multi-talented scholar with a plethora of skills and a maturity beyond his years who demonstrates a commitment to excellence that is truly commendable and who is most deserving of the 2018 Louisiana High School Student of the Year Award.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Sunjay Letchuman upon his selection as the 2018 High School Student of the Year by the Louisiana Department of Education; does hereby recognize his singular contributions to the betterment of his school, community, and state; and does hereby extend to him enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor that he brings to his family, friends, the city of Shreveport, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby wish for Sunjay continued success and happiness in all future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sunjay Letchuman, Michael Ilgenfritz, principal of Caddo Magnet High School, and Dr. T. Lamar Goree, superintendent of Caddo Parish Public Schools.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES