

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 220

BY SENATOR HEWITT

COMMENDATIONS. Recognizes and commends the Louisiana teams that participated in the 2018 FIRST Robotics World Championship in Houston, Texas.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and recognize the Louisiana teams that participated in the 2018 FIRST  
3 Robotics World Championship in Houston, Texas.

4 WHEREAS, FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology)  
5 is a national nonprofit organization that operates afterschool robotics programs for young  
6 people ages six to eighteen in the United States and internationally, impacting more than  
7 500,000 young people around the world each year; and

8 WHEREAS, ten years of evaluation data document that FIRST participants show a  
9 statistically significant higher interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and  
10 Mathematics (STEM); increased involvement in STEM-related activities; greater STEM  
11 identity; higher levels of STEM knowledge; and greater interest in STEM careers than  
12 students who do not participate, and the impact is even greater for female students; and

13 WHEREAS, FIRST participants are more motivated to do well in school, more likely  
14 to take a challenging math or science course, and show improved problem solving, time  
15 management, conflict resolution, and communication skills; and

16 WHEREAS, FIRST alumni express a greater interest in going to college and are  
17 twice as likely to major in science or engineering as other students; and

18 WHEREAS, FIRST robotics competitions are designed to foster a love of science

1 and engineering and inspire young peoples' interest and participation in science and  
2 technology; and

3 WHEREAS, a FIRST robotics competition is as close to real-world engineering as  
4 a student can get, combining the excitement of sport with the rigors of science and  
5 technology (the ultimate "Sport for the Mind"), with participants calling it "the hardest fun  
6 you'll ever have"; and

7 WHEREAS, the annual FIRST championship is the culminating event for FIRST  
8 participants with team activities, efforts, and competitions held throughout the year; and

9 WHEREAS, seven teams from Louisiana, with their mentors, traveled to Houston,  
10 Texas, in April 2018, to participate in the 2018 FIRST Robotics World Championship  
11 activities and pit their skills and mental agility against the best and brightest from across the  
12 United States and the globe; and

13 WHEREAS, these FIRST teams and their mentors deserve recognition and respect  
14 for their hard work, dedication, commitment, love of science and technology, and quest for  
15 excellence.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
17 does hereby recognize and highly commend the Louisiana teams that participated in the  
18 2018 FIRST Robotics World Championship in Houston, Texas, as follows:

- 19 (1) Torbotics, FIRST Robotics Competition Team 2080  
20 Hammond High Magnet School, Hammond, Louisiana  
21 Danny Thomasson, Team Mentor
- 22 (2) S.S. Prometheus, FIRST Robotics Competition Team 2992  
23 Mandeville High School, Mandeville, Louisiana  
24 Michael Sonnier, Team Mentor
- 25 (3) Knightling Boltz, FIRST Robotics Competition Team 5997  
26 East Iberville High School, St. Gabriel, Louisiana  
27 Victoria Hogan, Team Mentor
- 28 (4) Redfish Robotics, FIRST Tech Challenge Team 9958  
29 Redfish Robotics Foundation, Slidell, Louisiana  
30 Michael Clark, Team Mentor

