

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 72

BY SENATOR SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Mr. Richard A. Lipsey upon his reign as King of the 2022 Mystick Krewe of Louisianians Washington Mardi Gras Ball.

WHEREAS, the Mystick Krewe of Louisianians Washington Mardi Gras Ball has its origins among displaced Louisianians, known as the Louisiana State Society, living in our nation's capital who wanted to bring the celebration to their new home in the late 1930s; and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Mystick Krewe of Louisianians has welcomed President Richard Nixon, Vice President Gerald Ford, Vice President Al Gore, and numerous cabinet secretaries and ambassadors to its celebrations; and

WHEREAS, Society president C.J. Bourg and Lt. Col. Leonce Legendre of New Orleans were the inspiration for the first Mardi Gras ball held in 1944, for these exiled Louisianians living in Washington D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the first king was supposed to be Lt. Col. Legendre, but he had to be replaced at the last moment due to an illness; and

WHEREAS, since F. Edward Hebert, a member of the Louisiana Congressional delegation, fit Lt. Col. Legendre's costume, he, by default, became the first Washington Mardi Gras Ball king; and

WHEREAS, since 1944, the Mystick Krewe of Louisianians has selected a king to reign over the krewe's festivities; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Richard A. Lipsey was selected as king by the krewe to reign over the festivities in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Richard is the owner of Baton-Rouge based Lipsey's, one of the largest independently owned, single-location firearms distributors in the country; and

WHEREAS, he and his family also own Haspel, a line of men's tailored clothing that originated in New Orleans in 1909; and

WHEREAS, Richard is also founder and partner in Lipsey Communications, a chain of over three hundred wireless phone stores; and

WHEREAS, he is a graduate of Louisiana State University and the Harvard Business School Owner/President Management program; and

WHEREAS, Richard was highly active in the Reserve Officer Training Corps while at LSU, where he was honored as a Distinguished Military Graduate and served as the Cadet Colonel Division Commander of the then over three thousand member LSU Cadet Corps; and

WHEREAS, while in the Army from 1962 through 1964, he served as Aide to the Commanding General of the Military District of Washington and also as a Social Aide to President John F. Kennedy; and

WHEREAS, Richard continued his commitment to public service in his civilian life as a member of the Louisiana Board of Commerce and Industry and the Louisiana Board of Regents; and

WHEREAS, Richard is married to Susan Haspel Lipsey; has two daughters, Laurie Lipsey Aronson and Wendy Lipsey; and three grandchildren, Anna, Marla, and Luke; and

WHEREAS, Richard A. Lipsey merits sincere congratulations for being selected to reign as King of the 2022 Mystick Krewe of Louisianians Washington Mardi Gras Ball.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Mr. Richard A. Lipsey upon his reign as King of the 2022 Mystick Krewe of Louisianians Washington Mardi Gras Ball.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mr. Richard A. Lipsey.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE