

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 275

BY REPRESENTATIVES GLOVER, AMEDEE, BAGLEY, FREEMAN, HORTON,  
JEFFERSON, JENKINS, LAFLEUR, PHELPS, PRESSLY, SEABAUGH, AND  
WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To posthumously commend Deborah Henry Mims of Shreveport, the first woman in Louisiana to become a professional firefighter.

WHEREAS, the late Captain Deborah Henry Mims of the Shreveport Fire Department became the first woman in the state to earn the status of professional firefighter when she was hired by the department in February 1981; although no less than ten women submitted applications to work for the department, she was the only one capable of passing the agility test which included climbing a roof, pulling one hundred fifty feet of fire hose, and carrying a one hundred pound dummy up and down three flights of stairs; and

WHEREAS, Captain Mims never faltered in her determination during training or her career, and she earned the respect of her male contemporaries as a result of her toughness; her incredible drive and commitment not only earned her a position as a firefighter, but ultimately carried her through to the rank of captain, the first woman in the Shreveport Fire Department to achieve that milestone; and

WHEREAS, Captain Mims's legacy is not limited to the firehouse; she was a single mother of three when she was hired as a firefighter; when she passed away she had fourteen grandchildren and a loving husband of twenty-three years; throughout her personal and professional life she was a woman of strong faith and civic engagement who was active in her church and her community; and

WHEREAS, Captain Deborah Henry Mims was a truly inspiring woman who is most deserving of the highest recognition for her inspiring and historic life.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby posthumously commend Deborah Henry Mims of Shreveport, the first woman in Louisiana to become a professional firefighter and does hereby preserve for posterity her historic achievements and truly inspiring character.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Deborah Henry Mims.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES