

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 24

BY SENATOR TARVER

COMMENDATIONS. To commend AmeriCorps Seniors Southern University (SUSLA) Caddo/Bossier/DeSoto Foster Grandparent Volunteer Program for its forty-three years of exceptional service.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend AmeriCorps Seniors Southern University (SUSLA) Caddo/Bossier/Desoto  
3 Foster Grandparent Volunteer Program for its forty-three years of exceptional  
4 service.

5 WHEREAS, AmeriCorps is a federal agency with a mission to bring people together  
6 to tackle the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteering,  
7 and every year the agency places more than 280,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps  
8 Senior volunteers with organizations across the country; and

9 WHEREAS, AmeriCorps Seniors includes a national Foster Grandparent Program  
10 (FGP) that engages volunteers who are age fifty-five years and above to serve as role  
11 models, mentors, and friends to children; and

12 WHEREAS, the AmeriCorps Seniors Caddo/Bossier/Desoto FGP has operated in the  
13 Shreveport/Bossier City area since 1980, providing volunteer support to meet critical  
14 community needs while also providing high quality volunteer experiences for the  
15 participants; and

16 WHEREAS, over the past forty-three years, the staff and volunteers of the  
17 Caddo/Bossier/Desoto FGP have given the extra love, nurturing, and understanding to fill  
18 gaps in available services by bringing children in need together with seniors in a constructive

1 setting that is mutually beneficial; and

2 WHEREAS, the program's army of volunteers help children to learn to read, provide  
3 one-on-one tutoring, mentor troubled teenagers and young mothers, and assist in the care for  
4 premature infants, children with disabilities, and children who have been abused or  
5 neglected; and

6 WHEREAS, outcomes as a direct result of the program include a fifteen percent gain  
7 in language skills by participant children over peers not supported by Foster Grandparents  
8 and steady growth in the six core domains of gross motor skills, fine motor skills, cognitive  
9 skills, language skills, self-help, and social-emotional behavior as measured with the Early  
10 Learning Accomplishment Profile assessment; and

11 WHEREAS, SUSLA's AmeriCorps Seniors Caddo/Bossier/Desoto Foster  
12 Grandparent Program continues to provide the personal attention to local children that is  
13 essential to help youth grow, gain confidence, and succeed as productive members of society  
14 while providing the senior volunteers with the joy and satisfaction of being a needed and  
15 vital part of their communities.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
17 does hereby commend SUSLA's AmeriCorps Seniors Caddo/Bossier/Desoto Foster  
18 Grandparent Program and its staff and volunteers for its forty-three years of exceptional  
19 service to area children; does hereby extend best wishes for continued success in the future;  
20 and does hereby recognize Thursday, May 4, 2023, as AmeriCorps Seniors Foster  
21 Grandparent Volunteer Day at the Senate and extends best wishes for continued success in  
22 the future.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
24 Ms. Neva Jones, SUSLA Caddo/Bossier/Desoto FGP Director.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Celeste Ellis.

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