

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 197

BY SENATORS CORTEZ, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, DUPLESSIS, FESI, FIELDS, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JACKSON, KLEINPETER, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, TARVER, WHITE AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Diane O'Quin on her many years of exemplary service to the Louisiana Senate.

WHEREAS, Diane Aguiard O'Quin was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to Howard and Julia Aguiard on January 28th in a year that was not that long ago; and

WHEREAS, Diane was raised in Rougon, Louisiana, and graduated from Rougon High School earning many academic accolades; following high school, Diane moved to Baton Rouge to attend Spencer Business College; and

WHEREAS, in 1966, she married the handsome Billy O'Quin and their union was blessed with daughter, Doreen O'Quin Brasseaux, and son, Shane O'Quin; and

WHEREAS, prior to her employment by the Senate, Diane worked for the Baton Rouge law firm Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson and worked two stints at the attorney general's office under the former Attorney General William J. Guste, whom she ALWAYS referred to as "the General"; and

WHEREAS, in 1981, she was hired by the Senate as secretary to Ollive R. Maxey, a senior staff attorney; in 1982, her responsibilities were expanded to add secretary to the Senate Committee on Finance and then expanded again to provide secretarial support to another senior attorney Tom Poche; she commendably juggled all three assignments for several years; and

WHEREAS, when Ollive Maxey and Tom Poche retired in 1984, Diane provided secretarial support to the two newly named senior attorneys, Diane Burkhart and Riley Boudreaux; and

WHEREAS, during the 1988-1992 term, Diane transferred from the Senate Committee on Finance to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and International Affairs working with Chairman Senator Lawson Swearingen; in 1990, when Senator J.E. Jumonville replaced Senator Swearingen as chairman, Diane continued in her

role as the committee's secretary; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, she was assigned to the Senate Committee on Insurance, teaming up with Senator Greg Tarver with whom she continued to work until her first retirement from the Senate in 2002, and with whom she continues to maintain a friendship dear to both of them; and

WHEREAS, during her two decades with the Senate, Diane diligently worked her assigned tasks, consistently offered help to her colleagues, and used her knowledge and experience to improve work processes; on occasions too numerous to count, she volunteered her assistance to Proofing, working late into the night only to be back at work to staff her committee hours later; she carefully considered and initiated many of the ideas for process improvements that were implemented; and she became an integral part of the organization committees for Senate events such as inaugurations, hosting of conventions, and Christmas and sine die parties; and

WHEREAS, always drawn to the beat of music, Diane's love of dance and her demonstration of that love at numerous Senate functions earned her the endearing title of "Queen of the Jitterbug"; and

WHEREAS, even after her retirement, Diane continued as a session employee and committee secretary for Senator Tarver for the 2002 and 2003 sessions and as a session employee for Senate Documents and Records for the 2004 and 2005 sessions; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Diane was hired by the Secretary's office as the assistant journal clerk on the front desk, and three years later, she was promoted to primary journal clerk; and

WHEREAS, after almost two decades working the front desk, Diane will retire again from the Senate at the conclusion of the 2023 Regular Session; and

WHEREAS, Diane's tremendous work ethic, eagerness to learn, and attention to detail has served the Senate well for the past four decades; her public service has also led to lifelong friendships and many hilarious and precious moments; and

WHEREAS, Diane is a voracious reader, excellent cook, loyal wife, beloved mother and grandmother, devoted friend, and always ready to be whisked away to the next adventure; she and her husband of fifty-six years Billy have traveled extensively around the

world and nothing makes her happier than being surrounded by family, particularly grandchildren Sarah, Caitlyn, Brady, and Emily, and the newest addition, great-grandchild and namesake Julia Claire; and

WHEREAS, it is now time for her second, well-deserved retirement from the Senate and the start of her next adventure in life.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Diane O'Quin for her many years of service to the Senate and offers heartfelt wishes for success in all her future endeavors and health and happiness in the years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Diane O'Quin.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE