

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY SENATOR HENRY

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Margaret Orr on the occasion of her retirement from WDSU-TV after forty-five years of providing invaluable guidance and information to the residents of Southeast Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Margaret Orr joined WDSU News in 1979 as a general assignment reporter "who could also do the weather", and rose to the position of Chief Meteorologist in 2009, demonstrating unwavering dedication and commitment to her profession; and

WHEREAS, early in her career, Margaret Orr co-hosted WDSU's morning show "The Breakfast Edition" and also co-hosted "The World's Fair Show" which broadcasted daily from the grounds of the 1984 World's Fair; and

WHEREAS, as a meteorologist, Margaret Orr played a pivotal role in guiding Southeast Louisiana through the impacts of thirty-one hurricanes, including the monumental storms Katrina and Ida, and ensured the safety and well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Orr, a native of New Orleans and a graduate of Louisiana State University and the Mississippi State Broadcast Meteorology program, has consistently exemplified excellence and professionalism in her field; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Orr holds a seal of approval from the American Meteorological Society and the National Weather Association as well as first-place awards from the Associated Press and the New Orleans Press Club for breaking weather stories; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Orr has been recognized with numerous other accolades, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Louisiana Association of Broadcasters in 2022, and the Distinguished Service Award at the National Hurricane Conference, underscoring her outstanding contributions to meteorology and public service; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Orr's dedication extends beyond her professional endeavors, as evidenced by her founding of The Mystic Krewe of Barkus in 1993, a beloved French Quarter dog parade, her distinction as an "Honorary Muse" by New Orleans' first all-female Mardi Gras Krewe Muses in 2024, and for more than twenty years, her role as co-host of the Children's Hospital Telethon helping to raise millions of dollars for the Children's hospital; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Orr's vibrant presence, characterized by her signature bright red hair and infectious enthusiasm, has been a source of joy and inspiration to the residents of Southeast Louisiana, and she is, by any measure, a beloved local icon; and

WHEREAS, Margaret Orr's retirement on Friday, March 29, 2024, marks the end of an era, but her legacy as a dedicated meteorologist, community leader, and cherished member of the Southeast Louisiana community will endure for generations to come.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Margaret Orr on the occasion of her retirement from WDSU-TV and recognizes and records for posterity her outstanding achievements and dedication and professionalism throughout her esteemed career.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Margaret Orr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE