

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 33

BY REPRESENTATIVE HILFERTY

A RESOLUTION

To commend WDSU-TV Chief Meteorologist Margaret Orr on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, Margaret Orr graduated from Louise S. McGehee School in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1971; she attended Louisiana State University, where she graduated with a degree in English; despite majoring in English, she added courses on broadcast journalism and meteorology, and she spent a summer working at TV and radio stations in Waco, Texas; and

WHEREAS, after earning a degree, Margaret moved to Charleston, South Carolina, where she found work as a radio station general manager's secretary; she later accepted a full-time job as a receptionist at a Charleston TV station on the condition that she be allowed to serve as a news intern in the evenings; and

WHEREAS, after three years in South Carolina, Margaret returned to Louisiana to work as a general assignment reporter and weather fill-in at WBRZ in Baton Rouge; eleven months later, in 1979, she accepted an offer from WDSU to work in the same role; she also co-hosted WDSU's morning show, "The Breakfast Edition", and "The World's Fair Show" which broadcast daily from the grounds of the World's Fair; and

WHEREAS, Margaret reported weather for WDSU's noon and five o'clock newscasts; she began working seven days a week while raising two daughters and one son with her husband Bill; despite the challenges, she emerged as one of the most recognizable broadcast journalists in southeast Louisiana; more impressively, she also completed remote college courses at Mississippi State University to earn her meteorology certification, and in 2008, WDSU promoted her to chief meteorologist; she has since covered thirty-one hurricanes that impacted south Louisiana, including Katrina and Ida; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Orr is also an incredibly civic-minded individual whose involvement in the community cannot be overstated; in 2020, a Krewe of Muses Mardi Gras float saluted "Margaret Orracle of Da Sky", and during the 2024 Muses parade, she rode aboard the krewe's signature red shoe float as the honorary Muse; she is a prominent example of a local icon who is genuinely grounded in a community that adores her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Orr plans to retire at the end of March following more than four decades at WDSU-TV; she has served the people of south Louisiana with an inspiring degree of passion and skill, and she is most deserving of the highest recognition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend WDSU-TV Chief Meteorologist Margaret Orr on the occasion of her retirement; does hereby further recognize her impact on the communities of south Louisiana as a dedicated and skilled meteorologist; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that she continue to prosper in all of her endeavors as she begins the next phase of her life in retirement.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES