

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 127

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Michelle Yetman for her efforts to improve the lives of those with disabilities and to aid the nonmedical professionals who work with those with disabilities.

WHEREAS, allied health professionals make up 60% of all healthcare workers in the US with only .1% of clinical allied health professionals working in academic roles involving teaching and research; and

WHEREAS, clinical psychologists play an immeasurable role as allied health professionals as they assess, diagnose, and treat people with various conditions, such as depression, anxiety, trauma, and personality disorders; and

WHEREAS, the conditions treated by clinical psychologists are among the most life altering; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Michelle Yetman is a clinical psychologist at the School of Allied Health Professions who has gone beyond expectations to improve the lives of those with autistic spectrum disorders through early identification, diagnosis, and promotion of early intervention programs, including assuring ABA therapy is accessible in North Louisiana for patients and their families; ABA therapy is a scientific and evidence-based approach that helps individuals with autism learn and develop skills that will enhance their lives throughout adulthood; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Yetman has outstanding experience and educational credentials, which include serving as an Associate Professor and Clinical Psychologist at LSU Health Shreveport, an earned Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Gallaudet University in 2000, an APA-approved clinical internship at the University of Maryland Medical Center, in Baltimore, Maryland, and specialized training in the diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorders at the Center for the Atypical Child at Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital; she is a licensed clinical psychologist who is a member of both the American Psychological Association and the Louisiana Psychological Association; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Yetman is especially interested in empowering parents in the diagnostic and evaluation process, engaging collaborative, multi-disciplinary teams for diagnosis and intervention, supporting and educating families and service providers, and offering technical assistance and outreach to community agencies; and

WHEREAS, in addition to making training available to individuals on the autism spectrum and their families, Dr. Yetman created training for first responders who frequently deal with individuals on the autism spectrum; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Yetman trained the Shreveport police force on how to interact with individuals with autistic spectrum disorders; she also partnered with the Shreveport police force to establish an opportunity for individuals with autism and other spectrum-related disorders to interact with police in a nonemergency situation in an effort to build trust between individuals with disabilities and first responders; and

WHEREAS, today, Dr. Yetman frequently educates the community through a variety of media channels on how to access resources for their loved ones with disabilities, as well as tools to make their lives better.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Michelle Yetman for her efforts to improve the lives of those with disabilities and to aid the nonmedical professionals who work with those with disabilities and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that she continue to prosper in all of her endeavors.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES