

2024 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 85

BY SENATORS COUSSAN AND BOUDREAUX

COMMENDATIONS. To commend and recognize CGI Lafayette Center for Excellence on the occasion of its 10th anniversary.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and recognize CGI Lafayette Center of Excellence on the occasion of its 10th
3 anniversary.

4 WHEREAS, CGI announced the establishment of the CGI Lafayette Louisiana
5 Onshore Delivery Center, commonly referred to as the Lafayette Center of Excellence, in
6 Lafayette, Louisiana, in April 2014, and the center recently celebrated its 10th anniversary;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, CGI is one of the largest independent information technology and
9 business process services firms in the world; and

10 WHEREAS, the Lafayette Center of Excellence was made possible with the support
11 of the state department of Louisiana Economic Development, the Lafayette Economic
12 Development Authority, and its academic partner the University of Louisiana at Lafayette;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, in 2014, CGI committed to hiring 400 employees in a four-year
15 timeframe with an economic development impact of more than \$90M annually; it exceeded
16 this target, and in 2018 committed to doubling this workforce through 2027 to 800
17 employees; and

18 WHEREAS, the Lafayette Center of Excellence now employs more than 700

1 professionals with an annual payroll of more than \$52M and has exceeded the performance
2 expectation targets of the partnership year after year; and

3 WHEREAS, CGI selected Lafayette, a parish with approximately 250,000 people
4 located in the Acadiana region, for the Lafayette Center of Excellence based on the area's
5 quality of life, unique cultural heritage, access to a highly skilled regional workforce, strong
6 business incentives from the state and the Lafayette Economic Development Authority; for
7 CGI, it is truly a collaboration with business-friendly state and local governments, and strong
8 partnerships with academic institutions; and

9 WHEREAS, the location of the Lafayette Center of Excellence allows many local
10 graduates to remain in the area to pursue a career in information technology, and has allowed
11 many others to return to Lafayette and the Acadiana area to pursue careers in technology;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, the Lafayette Center of Excellence provides world-class information
14 technology systems development and integration services to federal, state, and local
15 governments, as well as health, telecom, financial services, insurance, retail, and
16 manufacturing firms; and

17 WHEREAS, the Lafayette Center of Excellence provides custom-tailored training
18 programs in software development, data analytics, cloud engineering, and artificial
19 intelligence, delivered by subject matter experts, including establishing the first software
20 developer apprenticeship in Louisiana, and draws skilled local talent from a feeder system
21 of more than ten colleges and universities, through a strong recruiting network, and
22 regionally sponsored programs; and

23 WHEREAS, the Lafayette Center of Excellence, in partnership with the University
24 of Louisiana at Lafayette has created an interdisciplinary Capstone program, Project Based
25 Learning curriculum for university students to learn industry best practices in information
26 technology fields such as cloud engineering and artificial intelligence; and

27 WHEREAS, the Lafayette Center of Excellence gives back to the region through
28 their Corporate Social Responsibility program, particularly in the areas of STEM education,
29 serving as trusted advisors for local educators, and introduced more than 15,000 students to
30 date to information technology early in their educational development through the

1 STEM@CGI program focused on demographics underrepresented in information technology
2 fields; and

3 WHEREAS, the Lafayette Center of Excellence demonstrates that public-private
4 partnerships, when properly structured, can create and sustain well-paying jobs, enable
5 economic diversification and resilience in the state, and materially impact quality of life
6 within our communities.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
8 does hereby commend and recognize CGI Lafayette Center of Excellence on the occasion
9 of its 10th anniversary.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Dawn Romero Watson.

SR 85 Original

DIGEST
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Coussan

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anniversary.