

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 264

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREIBERG

A RESOLUTION

To commend photographer James DeGraauw on the occasion of his retirement after forty-three years of service with WAFB-TV.

WHEREAS, WAFB-TV Chief Photographer James DeGraauw has dedicated forty-three years covering breaking news, weather, and sports across the state of Louisiana and beyond; and

WHEREAS, James is a native of Abbeville, Louisiana, and a graduate of Nicholls State University; he worked for three years at KLFY-TV in Lafayette before joining WAFB in Baton Rouge in 1982 to begin his career in photojournalism; and

WHEREAS, Mr. DeGraauw has been a fixture at the Louisiana Legislature throughout his career; he has worked alongside legislative reporters covering the administrations of numerous Louisiana governors, including David Treen, Buddy Roemer, Edwin Edwards, Mike Foster, Kathleen Blanco, Bobby Jindal, John Bel Edwards, and Jeff Landry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. DeGraauw has covered numerous hurricanes, including Andrew, Gustav, and Katrina, and his work has taken him to three College World Series, three LSU Football National Championships, and the New Orleans Saints Super Bowl victory; and

WHEREAS, James and his wife, Nancy, have two sons: Michael and Matthew; and

WHEREAS, James DeGraauw is most deserving of the highest recognition for his journalistic contributions to the state of Louisiana and its citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend photographer James DeGraauw on the occasion of his retirement from WAFB-TV after a forty-three-year career and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that he continue to prosper in all of his endeavors for many more years to come.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES