

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 39

BY REPRESENTATIVE LORUSSO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Lane Carson for his service as secretary of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs.

WHEREAS, Lane Carson retired in January after four years of highly effective service to the veterans of this state as secretary of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carson, who was appointed by Governor Bobby Jindal in 2008, is a graduate of Louisiana State University and Tulane Law School; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carson, a native of Covington, was wounded while serving as an Army platoon leader in Vietnam and went on to become the first Vietnam veteran to serve in the Louisiana House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carson was commissioned as a second lieutenant through the Louisiana State University Army ROTC in 1970; and

WHEREAS, from 1976 to 1982, Mr. Carson served as a member of the House of Representatives from New Orleans on the house and governmental affairs, civil law, and health and welfare committees; and

WHEREAS, in the legislature, Mr. Carson also proudly served as a member of the Veterans and Elderly Sub-committees; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Mr. Carson was appointed to the Louisiana Veterans Affairs Commission representing the Military Order of the Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carson's father was a veteran of World War II and Mr. Carson's son is currently serving in the United States Navy in the Persian Gulf; and

WHEREAS, in 1982, Mr. Carson was appointed assistant secretary at the Louisiana Department of Health and Human Resources and later began work as an assistant district attorney in St. Tammany Parish, where he served for more than twenty years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carson previously served on the Veterans Administration's Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Veterans, was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the Architectural and Transportation Barrier's Compliance Board, and was appointed by President George Bush to serve on the National Institute of Building Science; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at the Department of Veterans Affairs, Mr. Carson ensured that every parish has a veterans affairs office, expanded eligibility at the state's five veterans homes, added two new veterans cemeteries, and developed a business initiative aimed at providing employment opportunities for veterans; and

WHEREAS, in December 2012, thanks in large part to the tireless efforts of Mr. Carson, ground was broken for the new veterans cemetery at the Louisiana National Guard's Camp Villere near Slidell; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carson has gone above and beyond to uphold and strengthen the mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide comprehensive care and quality service to Louisiana's veterans and their families with regard to health care, education, disability benefits, long-term care, and burial honors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carson performed his duties as secretary with great effectiveness, productivity, and dedication and was a truly excellent department leader; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Carson is a true Louisiana hero who served his state and nation with great honor and shepherded the Department of Veterans Affairs through a tumultuous period of growth, reorganization, and transition, in order to continue to deliver the best possible service to Louisiana's veterans and their families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Lane Carson for four years of distinguished service as secretary of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs, does hereby express enduring appreciation for his outstanding accomplishments and singular contributions, does hereby record for posterity his unwavering commitment to public service and meeting the needs of Louisiana's veterans, does hereby recognize the tremendous pride and honor that he brings to the state of Louisiana and the United States of America, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for success, good health, and prosperity in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Lane Carson.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE