

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 179

BY SENATOR BROOME

A RESOLUTION

To welcome Kilolo Kijakazi to the state of Louisiana and express appreciation for her efforts, in conjunction with the Ford Foundation, in support of the Louisianans Building Economic Stability Together (LABEST) Initiative and Ford's Building Economic Security Over a Lifetime (BESOL) Initiative.

WHEREAS, Louisianans Building Economic Stability Together (LABEST) is a project of Urban Restoration Enhancement Corporation (UREC); and

WHEREAS, the primary role of UREC is to provide leadership and guidance in the expansion and formation of a statewide coalition aligned with Southern Regional Asset Building Coalition (SRABC) and the Building Economic Security over Lifetime (BESOL) Initiative funded and supported by the Ford Foundation; and

WHEREAS, the collaboration is comprised of grassroots, nonprofit and advocacy organizations, policy makers, community leaders, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs); and

WHEREAS, the unified strategy for LABEST is a grassroots teaching approach to build a base of cross sector leaders committed to working with regional partners throughout the state to help set conditions that will address policies that impact superior growth and prosperity in our state; and

WHEREAS, Kilolo Kijakazi's work focuses on building economic security for working families; and

WHEREAS, her grant-making promotes public support for the creation of universal, progressive savings accounts from birth through retirement, and Social Security reform that improves benefits for low-wage workers and this approach incorporates the expertise of people of color into all aspects of the work, including research, policy, and practice; and

WHEREAS, before joining the Ford Foundation in 2003, Kilolo was a senior policy analyst for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, where she specialized in Social Security and wrote and presented research and policy papers, testified before Congress, and served as a panelist at the White House Conference on Social Security during the Clinton administration, as some of her papers were published by the National Academy of Social Insurance and the Gerontological Society; and

WHEREAS, she previously worked as a program analyst for the United States Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service where she designed and monitored evaluations of the Food Stamp Program and demonstrations of noncustodial parent programs; and

WHEREAS, she also worked at the National Urban League's Washington operations office as a policy analyst and addressed issues such as welfare reform, employment and education; and

WHEREAS, Kilolo received a PhD in public policy from George Washington University and her dissertation was published as the book "African-American Economic Development and Small Business Ownership" (Garland, 1997), holds an MSW with a specialty in community development from Howard University, and earned a BA from Binghamton University.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana welcomes Kilolo Kijakazi to the state of Louisiana and expresses appreciation for her efforts, in conjunction with the Ford Foundation, in support of the LABEST Initiative and Ford's BESOL Initiative.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Kilolo Kijakazi.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE