

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 60

BY SENATORS JOHNS AND JOHN SMITH

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the city of Sulphur upon its first Centennial celebration.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate the city of Sulphur, Louisiana, its citizenry, and public  
3 officials, on the celebration of its Centennial.

4 WHEREAS, April 17, 2014, marks a memorable and historic occasion for the  
5 municipality as the one hundredth anniversary of official recognition as a village by  
6 proclamation by Luther E. Hall, Governor of Louisiana; and

7 WHEREAS, Sulphur, a ten square mile portion of Calcasieu Parish, abounds with  
8 quaint charm and vitality all its own; named the "Gateway to the Creole Nature Trail", its  
9 wetlands and alluvial plains are a focal point of time-honored traditions that date back to the  
10 agrarian and cowboy-ranching cultures of the 1880's; and

11 WHEREAS, the city's name evolved from the rich deposits of the bright yellow  
12 element, sulfur; also known as brimstone, that were mined by corporations such as the  
13 Calcasieu Sulphur Mining Company and the Union Sulphur Company; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Herman Frasch, a German chemist, had patented a process in which  
15 sulfur could be safely extracted from sandy soil and a regional mining industry was born;  
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Thomas Kleinpeter originally named the area "Kleinpeter's Square",  
18 however, in 1900, when he filed the map of the town's layout, the name was changed to

1 "Sulphur City", then the U.S. Post Office intervened and the City designation was dropped  
2 from its name; it also bore the affluent title of "the richest fifty acres in the world"; and

3 WHEREAS, the founders and first entrepreneurs of Sulphur include the names of  
4 Burton, Perkins, Frasch, Henning, Burleson, Root, LaFargue, Ellender, and Breeden, along  
5 with familiar institutions that include the Brimstone Railroad, the Methodist, Baptist, and  
6 Catholic churches, and the Frasch School; and

7 WHEREAS, in the 1920s, sulfur mining and the timber industry were no longer  
8 lucrative economies and new commercial ventures were developed with utilization of the  
9 accessibility of deep water channels to the Gulf of Mexico which gave rise to extraordinary  
10 industrial growth along the Calcasieu River including petrochemical and manufacturing  
11 facilities such as Mathieson Alkalie Works; now Olin, Cities Service Refinery; now known  
12 as Citgo; PPG, and many others along the corridor that drew its labor force from around the  
13 world; and

14 WHEREAS, the present population of over twenty-two thousand consists of all  
15 manner of ethnic origins and many are descendants of early immigrants who can trace their  
16 roots back to the heartland of the United States, Canada, and Germany; and

17 WHEREAS, today Sulphur is strategically located as a transportation hub with  
18 readily available modes of transport either by railroad, motor carrier, or waterway which  
19 stimulates the exportation of Louisiana's goods to global marketplaces and the importation  
20 of foreign trade; and

21 WHEREAS, the abundance of vital water resources provide ample wildlife for  
22 hunting and fishing which makes Sulphur an excellent area for leisure and recreation; and

23 WHEREAS, Sulphur is blessed with warm, friendly people with strong ties to family,  
24 community, and country, steadfast loyal patriots of their locale and its traditions that are  
25 reflected in their fairs and festivals, the Cal-Cam Fair, Christmas Under the Oaks Festival,  
26 and the Heritage Days Festival; and

27 WHEREAS, in mid-March Sulphur held a series of fetes to celebrate its first one  
28 hundred years, 1914-2014, that included a rodeo, a centennial parade, concerts performed  
29 in Heritage Square, demonstrations of traditional undertakings such as soap-making and  
30 blacksmithing, arts and crafts, a pictorial quilt raffle, opening of a time capsule, exhibits at

1 the Henning Cultural Center, the unveiling of a permanent centennial display at the  
2 Brimstone Museum, the striking of commemorative coins, and the publication of centennial  
3 history books; and

4 WHEREAS, Sulphur's lengthy economic success is linked to the city's attitude and  
5 motto of "Faith, Family, and Community" and is destined to experience an unprecedented  
6 wave of growth with new industrial expansion for many years to come; and

7 WHEREAS, the people of Sulphur strive to preserve and celebrate a way of life that  
8 has survived since its inception, and together contemplate a future filled with hope and  
9 prosperity for generations yet to come.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
11 does hereby commend the city of Sulphur upon the celebration of its first one hundred years.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that April 17, 2014, is hereby recognized as the First  
13 Centennial Anniversary of the founding of the city of Sulphur.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
15 Christopher Duncan, mayor of the city of Sulphur.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Suzi Montague.

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DIGEST

Johns

SR No. 60

Commends the city of Sulphur for the 100th anniversary of its founding.