

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 65

BY REPRESENTATIVES SEABAUGH, BURFORD, BURRELL, AND CARMODY

A RESOLUTION

To commend Vijay Letchuman, a senior at Caddo Parish Magnet High School, for excelling in scientific research, being named the school's Student of the Year for 2014-2015, and upon his selection as a regional finalist in the state's annual Student of the Year Competition.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the Louisiana House of Representatives recognizes the energy, intelligence, and self-motivation of Vijay Letchuman, a true leader and role model among his peers; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to academic achievement and drive to do his best at all times are evident as he excels in advanced placement calculus, biology, and English; he serves as the president of Caddo Parish Magnet High School's mock trial team and is enrolled in the Science and Medicine Academic Research Training Program; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Letchuman will graduate high school having already published a short abstract in a research journal; and

WHEREAS, in addition to academic success, Mr. Letchuman enjoys reading and playing golf; he excelled on the tennis court before encountering knee problems and since then, he has redirected his energy to scientific research; he has a passion for science and aspires to obtain a M.D.-Ph.D. so he can directly help patients while indirectly contributing to the biomedical science field; and

WHEREAS, for several months, Vijay worked in a LSU chemistry lab on a potential anti-cancer drug; his dedication to scientific research has led to the publication of his abstract and has afforded him the opportunity to present his research on "The Use of Ultra Filtration to Study Kynurenine Binding to Bovine Serum Albumin" at the 2014 Biomedical Research Network Annual Meeting in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Vijay is a member of numerous clubs and organizations at Caddo Parish Magnet High School, such as the National Honor Society, the Key Club, the Spanish Honor Society, the Asian Students Association, Mock Trial, Quiz Bowl, and Red Cross; he also volunteers his time at various elementary school fall carnivals and field days, tutoring middle school students at the Volunteers of America, and helping with residents of the Azalea Estates Retirement Home; and

WHEREAS, Vijay received first place at the 2015 State Mock Trial Competition, second place at the Louisiana Junior Science Humanities Symposium, and second place in chemistry at the State Science Fair Competition; he was also an International Science and Engineering Fair Finalist; and

WHEREAS, Vijay will be attending the University of Missouri-Kansas City, where he will begin medical school simultaneously with his undergraduate degree in August; in the future, he hopes to come back to Louisiana to practice as a physician; and

WHEREAS, Vijay Letchuman is a talented Louisiana student who demonstrates impeccable leadership and a commitment to excellence that is truly commendable, and he is most deserving of the Student of the Year award for 2014-2015 at Caddo Parish Magnet High School and his selection as a regional finalist in the state's annual Student of the Year competition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Vijay Letchuman for excelling at scientific research, upon being named the 2014-2015 Student of the Year for Caddo Parish Magnet High School, and upon his selection as a regional finalist in the state's annual Student of the Year competition; does hereby recognize his remarkable academic accomplishments; and does hereby wish Vijay full measures of success and happiness in his years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Vijay Letchuman.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES