2016 Regular Session

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 149** 

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUNTER

## A RESOLUTION

To commend Sergeant Eric Floyd McElroy for his service and involvement in the Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Office Deputies Making a Change youth mentoring program.

WHEREAS, Deputies Making a Change (DMAC) is a program with the laudable goal of reducing the incarceration rate among young children in Ouachita Parish; the deputies of DMAC provide mentoring relationships to youth who are failing in school, at risk of being incarcerated, or who have problems with authority; and

WHEREAS, DMAC deputies use their knowledge, experience, and a plethora of physical fitness and life skill tools to enhance the thinking ability of young people and to promote positive behaviors; each DMAC deputy is tasked with instilling in the youth the seven core values of the program: discipline, education, accountability, commitment, motivation, respect for authority, and self reliance; and

WHEREAS, Eric Floyd McElroy enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps after graduation from high school and served his country for four years; after his military stint was completed, Eric McElroy was employed at Louisiana Training Institute, a detention center for juveniles; and

WHEREAS, Eric received extensive training in youth development at Louisiana Training Institute which he put to good use when he joined the Ouachita Parish Sheriff's Department in 1999; Deputy McElroy completed assignments in Patrol Division, Investigative Division, is a certified hostage negotiator, and has attained the rank of sergeant; and

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WHEREAS, during his work as an investigator, Sergeant McElroy grew increasingly concerned at the large number of African American children in his area who lived in single parent homes in which only a mother was present; in 2012, he transferred to Deputies Making a Change in order to help the children of his community; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant McElroy works in DMAC to create positive environments, focus on education, and improve the lives of youth in Ouachita Parish, and it is fitting to commend his good works.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Sergeant Eric Floyd McElroy for sowing seeds of change into the lives of at-risk youth in Ouachita Parish and does hereby express best hopes for continued success with Deputies Making a Change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sergeant Eric Floyd McElroy.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES