

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 127

BY SENATOR CORTEZ

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the Veterans Action Coalition of Southwest Louisiana and the Board of Directors for their support of veterans in the region.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and express the deep appreciation of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
3 to the Veterans Action Coalition of Southwest Louisiana and their Board of Directors
4 for their fervent advocacy and unwavering dedication in their successful efforts to
5 bring two new, state-of-the-art Community Based Outpatient Clinics as well as a
6 separate, larger mental health clinic to the Southwest Louisiana Region.

7 WHEREAS, the Southwest Louisiana Region includes thirteen parishes and stretches
8 from its eastern border of St. Martin and St. Mary parishes to its southern border at the coast
9 of the Gulf of Mexico on to its western border of Lake Charles, St. Landry, Evangeline, and
10 Beauregard parishes; and

11 WHEREAS, the Veterans Action Coalition of Southwest Louisiana was founded in
12 2010 by veterans Rodney Hamilton and the late Bob Lowe with the stated mission to assure
13 that all local veterans obtain the highest quality medical care available; and

14 WHEREAS, the coalition, in the face of daunting odds has remained steadfast in its
15 mission, partnering with Louisiana's congressional delegation to lead the fight in
16 Washington for these long-overdue facilities in the region; and

17 WHEREAS, due to the tremendous efforts of these brave men, construction of a
18 state-of-the-art, 11.2 million dollar Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Lafayette will

1 triple the number of examination rooms in the current clinic, while also providing additional
2 space for social workers, dieticians, pharmacists, and other medical services that are
3 currently not available; and

4 WHEREAS, the Veterans Health Administration is putting the finishing touches,
5 thanks to the coalition's persistence and determination, to a mental health facility in
6 Lafayette to provide needed services to the thousands of veterans in the region suffering
7 from severe mental health disorders; and

8 WHEREAS, construction will begin this May in Lake Charles on a third Community
9 Based Outpatient Clinic for the region that will mirror the Lafayette clinic in providing the
10 city with additional teams of doctors as well as its own pharmacy and ten more examination
11 rooms than the previous clinic; and

12 WHEREAS, the Coalition's Board of Directors, Co-Founder's Rodney Hamilton, Dr.
13 Skip Palmintier, Thomas Grote, Dr. Thomas Green, and Jim Nunn, and Deron Santiny,
14 deserve to be recognized as the tip of the spear in this endeavor.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
16 does hereby extend its highest commendations to the Veterans Action Coalition of
17 Southwest Louisiana for its tireless efforts on behalf of Louisiana veterans and their families
18 with medical needs and health concerns after lengthy combat deployments to middle eastern
19 theaters of war.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
21 Veterans Action Coalition of Southwest Louisiana and its Board of Directors.

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

SR 127 Original

DIGEST
2016 Regular Session

Cortez

Commends the Veterans Action Coalition of Southwest Louisiana for its support of veterans
in the region.