

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY SENATOR PEACOCK AND REPRESENTATIVE SEABAUGH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the librarians, staff, and administrators of the Shreve Memorial Library upon receipt of the designation, "Most Impressive Library in the state of Louisiana" from Reader's Digest.

WHEREAS, Reader's Digest names the most exceptional library in each state based on its unique characteristics, such as, outstanding architectural appointments and literary collections, and notes the historical significance of the Shreveport downtown library to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Shreve Memorial Library is the main branch of the Caddo Parish Library system that includes twenty-one locations and since 1923, it houses the Selective Federal Depository collection of specialized government documents, including the Federal Register, Statistical Abstracts of the United States, Public Papers of the Presidents of the United States, and census information; and

WHEREAS, the Shreve Memorial Library is the crown jewel in the library system with a rich aesthetic facade in the style of Italian Renaissance Revival with architectural elements of limestone, Doric pilasters, balustered casement windows, terra cotta, and decorative cornice; and

WHEREAS, the present structure was erected in 1911 by architect James K. Taylor as a federal building that contained the United States Post Office and the U.S. District Court; in 1974, the site was placed on the National Register of Historic Places; and

WHEREAS, throughout history libraries have been centers of learning and have represented the cumulative knowledge of a community; and the free circulation of books and periodicals is essential to the promotion of literacy among its citizens; and

WHEREAS, in the digital age, libraries strive to be relevant, embrace new technologies, and apply continuous innovations to attract and enable patrons; in the future, libraries shall continue to improve its utility by providing greater convenience and more personalized services to the public; and

WHEREAS, the Shreve Memorial Library offers accommodations for meeting rooms, study space, technology and computer work stations, and a youth services center; and

WHEREAS, the Friends of Shreve Memorial Library hold an annual Spring book sale in April and the Shreveport Symphony Orchestra regularly visits branches of the library system to perform Sym-Phonics, a musical storytime for children; and

WHEREAS, the library also opens its facilities to host Town Hall meetings, poetry readings, and youth reading programs; and

WHEREAS, in January 2017, the Rotary Club of Southwest Shreveport donated over one thousand books to be used in "Every Child Ready to Read" workshops; and

WHEREAS, since the first library was organized in 1890, Shreve Memorial Library remains an essential element in the future literacy, education, and human development of the Shreveport community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the librarians, staff, and administrators of the Shreve Memorial Library upon receipt of the designation, "Most Impressive Library in the state of Louisiana" from Reader's Digest.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby acknowledge the legacy of the Shreve Memorial Library and its importance to the literacy and continued growth of the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Josephine Babers Wade, president of Shreve Memorial Library Board of Control and Chris Kirkley, manager of the Shreve Memorial Library.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES