SLS 17RS-244 **ORIGINAL**

2017 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 58

BY SENATOR MILLS

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the Southern Mutual Help Association for its support in disaster recovery.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Southern Mutual Help Association for its support in disaster recovery.

WHEREAS, Southern Mutual Help Association (SMHA) was founded in 1969 to be an agent of change in rural Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, its mission is to build strong, healthy, and prosperous rural communities with an emphasis on families and communities whose livelihoods are interdependent with the land and water; and

WHEREAS, SMHA and its leadership have been recognized regionally, nationally, and internationally, having received numerous awards for innovation and excellence in community and economic development; and

WHEREAS, during a disaster, SMHA's focus is on recovery and redevelopment; and

WHEREAS, following hurricanes Katrina and Rita, SMHA was able to gain quick access to impacted areas, thereby completing critical assessments and begin raising more than ten million dollars in nongovernmental revenue and recruiting more than six thousand volunteers; and

WHEREAS, through the efforts of SMHA, volunteers worked on the recovery of one thousand sixty-four homes, businesses, and churches across coastal Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Southern Mutual Help Association has proven to be an essential

component of recovery and redevelopment during the rebuilding of Louisiana after the most devastating storms in Louisiana's history.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Southern Mutual Help Association for its tremendous contributions after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, does hereby support its efforts in recovery and redevelopment for future disasters because of its strong track reputation and proven track record in disaster relief and recovery, and does hereby acknowledge the necessity to gain quick access to impacted areas in order to make critical assessments, begin fundraising efforts, and recruit volunteers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Southern Mutual Help Association.

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

DIGEST

SCR 58 Original 2017 Regular Session Mills

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