BY SENATORS COLOMB, BARROW, HEWITT, MIZELL AND PETERSON AND REPRESENTATIVES AMEDEE, CARPENTER, DAVIS, EMERSON, HILFERTY, HILL, HODGES, HORTON, JACKSON, NANCY LANDRY, MARCELLE, MORENO, NORTON, SMITH, THOMAS AND WHITE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Bria Janai Williams upon her receipt of a 2017 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation in the category of College Women of Excellence and upon being a recipient of a Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation Scholarship.

WHEREAS, Bria Janai Williams, is currently a second year graduate student in the industrial/organizational psychology master's program at Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana, where she maintains a 4.0 grade point average; and

WHEREAS, before attending Louisiana Tech, Bria attended the Louisiana Scholars'
College at Northwestern State University of Louisiana, graduating with a Bachelor of
Science in psychology; and

WHEREAS, over the course of her undergraduate years, Bria was very active on campus serving as the president of the African American Caucus, external affairs commissioner for the Student Government Association, volunteer chairman for the Blue Key Honors Society, writer for the school newspaper, sports anchor for the school news station, freshmen orientation leader, and a member of other honor societies and organizations; and

WHEREAS, some of Bria's proudest moments include becoming a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, being crowned Northwestern State University's Homecoming queen and spending a semester abroad in Managua, Nicaragua; and

WHEREAS, Bria currently works as an intern with CenturyLink, a global communications hosting cloud and IT services company on the Fortune 500 list of America's largest corporations, and between school and work she also volunteers with the local United Way chapter every Wednesday through the "Read. Learn. Succeed." initiative where community members partner with second and third graders to help students improve their reading proficiency; and

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WHEREAS, through these and other service learning opportunities, she finds that she has grown in the areas of teamwork, problem solving and action planning, and working hands on in the community has fostered her empathy and self-efficacy and has allowed her to take an active role in helping to shape her community, Bria prays that her life will be a public example of all the wonderful things God is willing and able to do in the lives of those that trust and love him; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation created the Women of Excellence Awards to recognize and honor extraordinary women across the state for their outstanding achievements and contributions; and

WHEREAS, recipients of the Women of Excellence Awards exhibit characteristics of integrity and professionalism, personify excellence in their area of specialty, and are committed to community service to better society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, for 2017, there are four categories for the Women of Excellence Awards: College Women of Excellence, High School Women of Excellence, Louisiana Hero of Excellence, and Nonprofit of Excellence; and

WHEREAS, the recipients of the 2017 Women of Excellence Awards are being recognized at the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation's Women of Excellence Awards & Scholarships Ceremony and Reception on Tuesday, May 9, 2017; and

WHEREAS, Bria has been named a recipient of a 2017 Women of Excellence Award in the category of College Women of Excellence and is also a recipient of a Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation Scholarship for her accomplishments and personification of excellence in integrity, character, academics, leadership, and community service; and

WHEREAS, Bria merits a sincere and heartfelt measure of commendation for her dedication to excellence and outstanding accomplishments, and it is appropriate for the Legislature of Louisiana to commend her upon receipt of a 2017 Women of Excellence Award from the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation and a Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation Scholarship.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Bria Janai Williams upon her receipt of a 2017 Women of Excellence Award from

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the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation in the category of College Women of Excellence and upon her receipt of a Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Foundation Scholarship; does hereby recognize and record for posterity her singular contributions to the citizens of Louisiana; and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor that she brings to her community and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Bria Janai Williams.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES