

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 94

BY SENATOR CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To commend Harold Clay Jr. on his many accomplishments.

WHEREAS, Harold Clay Jr. graduated from Warren Easton High in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Harold Clay Jr. graduated in 1998 with a bachelor's degree from Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana, and later earned his master's degree from Tulane University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clay worked for Associated Catholic Charities in two different capacities, serving as the disciplinarian at Hope Haven Center for the on-site Jefferson Parish School and later becoming the clinical manager of two sub-acute units; and

WHEREAS, for seven years, Mr. Clay worked in the field of criminal justice as a homicide investigator for the Orleans Parish District Attorney's Office; and

WHEREAS, after Hurricane Katrina, he worked as a major case investigator for the Fulton County District Attorney's Office in Atlanta, Georgia; and

WHEREAS, as an investigator, Mr. Clay appeared on court television and local news stations in New Orleans, Louisiana, and Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, upon returning to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, he began working at Florida Parishes Juvenile Detention Center as a forensic social worker; and

WHEREAS, Harold Clay Jr. worked as an adjunct instructor for Southern University at New Orleans, Delgado Community College and Darryl S. Brister Bible College and Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clay worked as a clinician for Family Services of Greater New Orleans counseling children and families as well as facilitating domestic violence groups; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2001, Mr. Clay wrote an article featured in the Louisiana Counseling Association Journal explaining the use of his culture-centered approach working with at-risk African-American males; and

WHEREAS, in March 2005, Mr. Clay coauthored an article published in the International Journal for the Advancement of Counseling, "African Americans' Perceptions of Mental Health Professions"; and

WHEREAS, realizing his passion for wanting to help at-risk youth with educational challenges, Mr. Clay helped reopen Andrew H. Wilson Charter School in 2007, where he served as an administrator for three years; and

WHEREAS, Harold Clay Jr. is now in his seventh year at Edna Karr High School, having served as the assistant principal and school operations manager for the first four years; and

WHEREAS, Harold Clay Jr. was named Head of School of Edna Karr High School during the 2014-2015 school year making him the first African-American principal in the school's fifty-year history; and

WHEREAS, because of his unconventional approaches to educational leadership, he has garnered the attention of Bill Bradley, Ashton Kutcher, and Ellen DeGeneres, just to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Clay has been featured in a number of articles and magazines such as *The National Review*, *StudentsFirst*, and *Epitome Magazine*; and

WHEREAS, he has also received numerous awards and accolades both locally and nationally for his leadership at Edna Karr High School; and

WHEREAS, Harold Clay Jr.'s nontraditional work with youth has been illustrated in three documentaries, "School Choice in New Orleans", "Disconnected Youth", and "Close Ties: Tying on a New Tradition", which provides an intimate look at a rites of passage ceremony that connects teenage boys with positive male roles models; and

WHEREAS, Harold Clay Jr. is a member of the School Leadership Center of Greater New Orleans, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the Louisiana Association of Principals, the Black Alliance for Educational Options, and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development; and

WHEREAS, Harold Clay Jr. is a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Harold Clay Jr. on his many accomplishments.

**SR NO. 94**

**ENROLLED**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
Harold Clay Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE