

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 143

BY REPRESENTATIVE BROADWATER

A RESOLUTION

To commend J. Ruth Kennedy on the occasion of her retirement from the Louisiana Department of Health and to commend her for thirty-seven years of service to the citizens of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Ms. Kennedy graduated from Southeastern Louisiana University; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kennedy attained invaluable work experience at the Louisiana Department of Health while working in a field eligibility office for Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, she served with great distinction and effectiveness as deputy director for Medicaid, director for Children's Health Insurance Program, manager for Bayou Health Project, and director for Medicaid; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Ms. Kennedy was responsible for the implementation and oversight of the outreach, enrollment, retention, eligibility, and organizational change efforts that resulted in the state's reduction in the percentage of uninsured children; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kennedy also directed the design, development, and execution of Bayou Health, a Medicaid-managed care initiative, and throughout her work with this initiative, she reviewed Medicaid-managed care programs in numerous states and worked with staff to develop a model best-suited for Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, with the expansion of Medicaid eligibility for the state, Ms. Kennedy worked diligently to enroll thousands of citizens, and her innovative processes for Medicaid enrollment have been nationally recognized; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kennedy has been honored with many awards, including the Charles E. Dunbar, Jr., Career Service Award and the Jimmie Davis Sunshine Award; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Kennedy will always remain an inspiration to her fellow citizens for the vital contributions she has made throughout her thirty-seven years of effective service with the Louisiana Department of Health.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend J. Ruth Kennedy upon her retirement from the Louisiana Department of Health; does hereby recognize and record for posterity her extraordinary contributions to the state; and does hereby extend to Ms. Kennedy best wishes for success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to J. Ruth Kennedy.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES