

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 115

BY SENATOR ERDEY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Hunter Plake on his many accomplishments and to congratulate him on his outstanding performance and participation on *The Voice* reality television series.

WHEREAS, as a young man of twenty-one years of age, Hunter Plake has begun a meteoric rise in the entertainment industry beginning with the twelfth season of *The Voice*, a television reality series that seeks out unsigned singers and provides a competitive venue for undiscovered talent; and

WHEREAS, in the "Blind Auditions" segment of the show, he wowed the judges with his show-stopping vocalization of the song, "Carry On", by Fun; and

WHEREAS, judges Gwen Stefani, Alicia Keyes, Blake Shelton, and Adam Levine were quite impressed with Hunter's performances and exceptional range, unique vocal arrangements, and the emotional intensity of his delivery; and

WHEREAS, Hunter is also the first performer in the history of the series to have two songs reach the Top 30 listing on iTunes charts before the live playoff broadcasts were aired; and

WHEREAS, his roots in music run deep; Hunter comes from a music-oriented family; his brother, Dakota, is also a talented musician and vocalist in his own right, and his father, Bud, was a member of a Christian rock band named Brother, Brother; and

WHEREAS, Hunter and Dakota have formed their own band named P L A K E with plans to release a single, "Eden", later this year; and

WHEREAS, his renditions of "Elastic Heart" by Sia, "With Or Without You" by U2, "Dancing On My Own" by Robyn, and "Love Runs Out" by One Republic have propelled Hunter high into the ether of musical stardom; and

WHEREAS, between the audition/selection process and show performances, Hunter has experienced a roller coaster of life-changing events; he married his sweetheart, Bethany, in June 2016, and they established their home in Livingston Parish only to be flooded just two months later; and

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WHEREAS, within three days, Hunter and Bethany lost their home and all their belongings; and

WHEREAS, Hunter is a strong individual and a Christian of unfaltering faith, and he and his wife moved to Lafayette to the home of his parents; and

WHEREAS, for Hunter, these events were minor setbacks on the road of life, and he does not dwell on the past; today, with his optimistic outlook, he continues to advance his music career, teaches music classes, and sings every Sunday as part of music worship service at Crossroads Church in Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, although Hunter Plake was eliminated during the semifinal round of competition, he took part in the spectacular two-hour season finale of *The Voice* on May 23, 2017, performing "Don't Speak" by No Doubt in a moving duet performed with his friend and show coach, Gwen Stefani; and

WHEREAS, Hunter Plake is an unstoppable force in the music industry with a bright future as a professional singer, songwriter, and producer.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Hunter Plake on his many accomplishments and congratulate him on his outstanding performances and participation on *The Voice* reality television series.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby wish continued success in all future endeavors for this extraordinary talent, Hunter Plake.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Hunter Plake.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES