

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 116

BY SENATOR JOHN SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To commend Mayor Lawrence Henagan of DeQuincy, Louisiana, upon the occasion of his retirement following three terms as mayor and two previous terms as a city councilman.

WHEREAS, Lawrence Henagan was born on October 30, 1956, in DeQuincy, Louisiana, and is the son of Charles Ray and Bettie Henagan; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from DeQuincy High School, Lawrence Henagan attended McNeese University in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and began his work life at the Cities Services Refinery in Lake Charles before the lure of the railroad, which had drawn many in his family to work in that industry, caused him to follow that same path; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Henagan began working for the Union Pacific Railroad forty-one years ago, became an engineer for the railroad, and he continues in that pursuit today; and

WHEREAS, beyond his family, church, and work, Lawrence Henagan felt the call to public service as nearly twenty years ago he ran to serve as city councilman and winning that race began his formal public service for his much beloved hometown; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Henagan served two terms on the council and then ran for the office of mayor, winning that campaign and relishing the chance to serve the public of DeQuincy in yet another capacity; and

WHEREAS, in the five elections in which Lawrence Henagan offered himself to serve the citizens of his hometown, he faced opposition only once, a testament to his honesty and integrity in public office as well as his ability to complete projects vital to the progress and prosperity of DeQuincy; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Henagan oversaw numerous projects and improvements during the past twelve years as mayor, including a one and one-half million dollar Buxton drainage project, a three and one-half million dollar project of improvements to the DeQuincy Industrial Airpark, and he sought funds and grants to restore the 1951 Old Town Hall to its

ENROLLED

ENROLLED

original condition, such that today it houses historical artifacts about the founding of the town and a special exhibit that is a salute to Louisiana's decorated veterans of United States military service; and

WHEREAS, the project cost over one hundred thousand dollars, using solely grant money with no use of city funds, and the newly renovated building houses the satellite district office for state Senator John Smith and the District Six Gravity Drainage local office; and

WHEREAS, through the improvement programs completed during his term in office, Mayor Henagan's projects have brought over one hundred new jobs to the town of DeQuincy with Deep South Crane and the new Super Fred's Store, a significant economic infusion for a small municipality; and

WHEREAS, looking beyond the boundaries of DeQuincy, but with an eye toward further improvements in the town, Mayor Henagan has been active in the Louisiana Municipal Association, an organization designed to provide a unified voice for Louisiana's municipal governments to advocate, educate, and empower municipal governments, and is currently serving as president of the organization and will maintain that position until the association's annual convention in August 2018; and

WHEREAS, prior to becoming president of the association, Mayor Henagan served six years as the vice president of the association's District G, the geographical area in which DeQuincy is located; and

WHEREAS, Lawrence Henagan believes that public service should be a calling, not an opportunity for self-gratification and power, and his humility and the trust he inspires in those he serves are hallmarks of his years of serving his hometown; and

WHEREAS, the love and sense of responsibility that inspire public service are aspects of Mayor Henagan's character and he hopes that he has passed that respect for public service on to the younger generations of the Henagan family; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Henagan and his wife, Della, a DeQuincy native, have been married for thirty-eight years, have raised two sons who are both graduates of Louisiana State University, Lee and Lance and his wife, Krystal, and delight in their two grandsons, Isaac and Caleb; and

ENROLLED

ENROLLED

WHEREAS, Lawrence Henagan is a member of First Baptist Church of DeQuincy, where he currently serves as a deacon and a trustee and in recent years he has served on pastor search committees and the personnel committee; and

WHEREAS, native son of DeQuincy, Mayor Henagan is dedicated to his family, his church, and his work with the railroad, it could be said that luckily for the citizens of his hometown, he has poured his heart and soul into his years of public service as councilman and mayor of this western Louisiana town; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Lawrence Henagan has chosen not to run for another term as mayor, ending his career in public service, but he has left his mark on his beloved hometown and should be congratulated for acting on his belief that public service is a higher calling and that it offers an undeniable chance to do good for his community beyond his church and his treasured family.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Mayor Lawrence Henagan of DeQuincy, Louisiana, upon the occasion of his retirement following twenty years of public service; twelve years as mayor and eight as city councilman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mayor Lawrence Henagan of DeQuincy, Louisiana.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE