

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 136

BY SENATOR HEWITT

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dennis S. Cousin for his service to the St. Tammany Parish School Board and the community.

WHEREAS, Dennis S. Cousin, a lifelong resident of St. Tammany Parish, has been married to Sandra Cousin for fifty years and they have three children together and four grandchildren who are all attending St. Tammany public schools; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Cousin attended St. Tammany High School in Slidell, Louisiana, received his bachelor's degree and a Master of Education from Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and also earned thirty plus hours from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana, and the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, he worked and retired from the St. Tammany Parish School Board where he was employed for thirty-six and one-half years; and

WHEREAS, Dennis Cousin was a teacher, athletic director, and head football coach at Chahta Ima High for two years and Slidell High School for eight years; he was supervisor of student welfare and director of transportation; and

WHEREAS, he was responsible for enforcing compulsory attendance laws of the state of Louisiana with a 94% average attendance; he has counseled over 250 students and parents per year concerning attendance; he has attended over 300 school board meetings in his lifetime; and he helped establish a City of Slidell Truancy Court with Judge Gary Dragon; and

WHEREAS, after he retired from the St. Tammany Parish School Board, Dennis Cousin was the Athletic Director at Xavier University of Louisiana from 2004 to 2013 where he managed a \$2.5 million yearly budget, led Xavier University of Louisiana to its most successful period in athletics, notwithstanding Hurricane Katrina, and he was named one of the five best athletics directors at an HBCU; and

WHEREAS, he has officiated numerous college, high school, junior high, youth league, and recreation basketball games for over forty-six years; and

WHEREAS, since 2015, he is the St. Tammany Parish School Board member for District 14; and

WHEREAS, he is member of Saint Genevieve Church in Slidell, Louisiana, and served as a Eucharistic Minister, and in the Usher Club, Fitness Ministry, and Finance Committee; in 2014, he received from the Archdiocese of New Orleans, a St. Louis Medallion, the highest honor given to a lay person in the Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, Dennis S. Cousin is an inspiration to so many children and generations; and

WHEREAS, during a full and productive lifetime, he has demonstrated, in countless ways, his dedication to the welfare of others and has earned the respect and affection of all who know him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dennis S. Cousin for his service to the St. Tammany Parish School Board and the community, does hereby record his outstanding contribution of time and talent for his hard work, dedication, and continuous commitment, and does hereby extend best wishes for success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dennis S. Cousin.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE