

2019 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 42

BY SENATOR JOHN SMITH

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Chris John for his years of public service.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Christopher C. John upon the occasion of his retirement as the president of the
3 Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, at the end of an illustrious eleven
4 year tenure, and for more than thirty years in the arena of governmental affairs.

5 WHEREAS, Christopher John was born on January 5, 1960, in Crowley, Louisiana,
6 where his family owned and operated a transportation company for generations; and

7 WHEREAS, Chris John left the friendly environs of Acadia Parish to attend college
8 at Louisiana State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in business administration;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Chris John is married to the former Payton Smith of Leesville,
11 Louisiana, and the couple have twin sons, Hays and Harrison; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. John began his political career as a member of the Crowley City
13 Council, the youngest ever elected; he moved on to serve in the Louisiana House of
14 Representatives from 1988 through 1996, when he was elected to the United States House
15 of Representatives where he served for eight years, from January 3, 1997, through
16 January 3, 2005; and

17 WHEREAS, while in Congress, Chris John fought for many causes important to
18 Louisiana and its citizens, including, championing efforts to protect Louisiana's threatened

1 coastline, the endeavors to develop and support a high tech economy in the state, and to
2 advance the issues important to Louisiana's farmers, oil and gas producers, and small
3 businesses; and

4 WHEREAS, Chris John served on the U. S. House of Representatives Committee on
5 Energy and Commerce where he worked to advance an aggressive agenda, including helping
6 parishes and counties nationwide combat the West Nile virus, and founding the
7 Congressional I-49 Caucus that at the time was the first ever bipartisan, multi-state coalition
8 which focused on the completion of Interstate 49 from New Orleans to Kansas City, as an
9 important interstate transportation corridor; and

10 WHEREAS, also on the national level, Mr. John was successful in efforts to craft a
11 new national energy policy and he served as leader of the "Blue Dog Coalition", which was
12 the voice of conservative members of the democratic party in Congress; and

13 WHEREAS, as a congressman and in support of his constituents, Chris John was
14 committed to working across party lines to accomplish goals that were for the benefit of the
15 entire country rather than giving way to partisan divides between political party members;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, following his career in elective politics, Mr. John entered the arena of
18 governmental affairs from the public interest perspective and he served as managing director
19 of Ogilvy Government Relations, a bipartisan governmental affairs firm located in
20 Washington, D.C.; and

21 WHEREAS, eventually, the pull to return to their native Louisiana brought Chris
22 John and his family to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he became the leader of the Louisiana
23 Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, which is the oldest trade association in the state,
24 having been founded in 1929; and

25 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association exclusively
26 represents all sectors of the oil and gas industry operating in Louisiana and the Gulf of
27 Mexico; and

28 WHEREAS, as president, Mr. John directed the operation, budget, staff, and
29 advancement of the association on behalf of the association's one hundred member
30 companies; and

