BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

## A RESOLUTION

To commend Denise Boutte' on her many accomplishments as an actress and producer and extend appreciation and gratitude to her for serving as the keynote speaker at the 19th Annual Greater Southwest Black Chamber of Commerce Trailblazer & Scholarship Gala.

WHEREAS, Denise Joseph Boutte' was born on January 19, 1982, in Maurice, Louisiana, to Betty and Nelson Joseph; and

WHEREAS, she was the valedictorian of her senior class at North Vermilion High School and crowned homecoming queen; and

WHEREAS, she majored in Microbiology, Pre-Med at Louisiana State University (LSU) but graduated with a degree in mass communications and a minor in marketing; and

WHEREAS, upon graduating from LSU, Denise received employment offers from three advertising agencies in Dallas, Texas; and

WHEREAS, while living in Dallas, Denise had a successful career as an advertising agency account executive and as the manager of an agency before appearing on the other side of the camera in print and commercial campaigns; and

WHEREAS, the move to Hollywood was a leap of faith rewarded with recurring roles in TV shows that included *Boston Legal*, *Everybody Hates Chris*, *Days of Our Lives*, and *Girlfriends*; and

WHEREAS, Denise is best known for her work as Sasha Brown in the nationally syndicated television series *Meet the Browns*; as Trina among the star-studded cast of the Lionsgate blockbuster, *Why Did I Get Married?*; as Ruth, in TV-One's highest trending

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premiere, For the Love of Ruth; leading roles in The Bounce Back, Couples' Night, and the Independent Film Channel series, Stan Against Evil; and an array of recurring roles including the critically acclaimed Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele creation, Key and Peele; and

WHEREAS, when she added co-producer to her credits in *In Full Bloom*, she was doing something that had come naturally since her ad agency days by utilizing her organizational skills, talking to the cast, and providing input on dialog, characters, locations, and camera angles; and

WHEREAS, Denise was a cast member of the made-for-television movie, *Media*, and the drama, *Secrets*, which she also produced for the big screen; and

WHEREAS, her most vulnerable leading role to date is her portrayal of Tasha Jackson in *Her Only Choice*, and due to its phenomenal ratings and critical acclaim, including a 2019 Satellite Awards nomination for "Best Film Made for Television", the film had its international debut on NETFLIX; and

WHEREAS, Denise has performed voice-over work in countless commercials and as superheroes Raquel Ervin and Rocket in the DC Comics favorite, *Young Justice*; and

WHEREAS, she married her husband, Kevin Boutte', who is a native of New Iberia, Louisiana, in 2003, and they have one daughter, Jordan; and

WHEREAS, Denise and her husband have never forgotten their Louisiana roots, return frequently to visit family and friends, and love Mardi Gras; and

WHEREAS, Denise Boutte' merits a special measure of commendation and recognition for the depth of her artistic ability in motion pictures and television, and for the tremendous pride that she brings to her family, friends, the Maurice community, and the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Denise Boutte' on her many accomplishments as an actress and producer, and her exceptional career thus far, recognize and record for posterity her vital contributions and tireless dedication to the Thespian community, extend enduring appreciation and gratitude to her for serving as the keynote speaker at the 19th Annual Greater Southwest Black Chamber of Commerce Trailblazer & Scholarship Gala, and express to her best wishes for continued success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Denise Boutte'.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE