

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 296

BY REPRESENTATIVE GAROFALO

COMMENDATIONS: To commend Lena R. Torres for her many years of public service and numerous extraordinary accomplishments

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Lena R. Torres for her many years of public service and numerous  
3 extraordinary accomplishments.

4 WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the citizens of Louisiana and the House of  
5 Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana recognize Lena R. Torres for her many years  
6 of public service and extraordinary accomplishments; and

7 WHEREAS, Lena Randazzo Torres is the daughter of the late Petrina Livaccari and  
8 Sam Randazzo who were both descendants of Palermo, Italy; and

9 WHEREAS, she is a graduate of Maumus High School and a graduate of Soule'  
10 Business College; and

11 WHEREAS, she was a loving and devoted wife to the love of her life, the late  
12 Sidney D. Torres, is a committed mother and cherished grandmother, great-grandmother,  
13 relative, and friend whose love of family and friends is of the utmost importance in her life;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, her long and illustrious career in public service has spanned over  
16 seventy years, beginning and ending in the St. Bernard Clerk of Court's Office from 1940  
17 to 1946, moving to the Louisiana County Agricultural Extension Division from 1946 to  
18 1956, becoming Chief Deputy Clerk of Court from 1956 to 1988, and being appointed Clerk  
19 of Court upon the death of her husband and Clerk of Court Sidney D. Torres Jr.; and

20 WHEREAS, she was elected Clerk of Court for St. Bernard Parish in 1988, was  
21 reelected five times, and served until her retirement in 2012; and

1           WHEREAS, Lena is an exemplary and highly admired citizen of Louisiana who has  
2 worked tirelessly on a multitude of business, civic, community, political, and religious  
3 causes throughout her life; and

4           WHEREAS, she has been active and involved in numerous organizations: the  
5 St. Bernard Society for Crippled Children, St. Bernard Business and Professional Women's  
6 Club (Charter Member), St. Bernard Battered Women's Association, Louisiana Clerks of  
7 Court Association, National Association of County Recorders, Election Officials and Clerks,  
8 International Association of Clerks, Recorders, Elected Officials and Treasurers, Suburban  
9 Woman's Club, Arabi Lions Women's Auxiliary, Chalmette Medical Center Auxiliary, Serra  
10 Club of St. Bernard (Charter Member), American Association of Retired Persons,  
11 Kiwanis Club, The Elenian Club, Canary Island Descendants Association, Los Islenos  
12 Cultural & Heritage Society, and the St. Bernard Parish Retired Teachers Association; and

13           WHEREAS, her honors and awards are vast and include receiving the Alliance for  
14 Good Government Past President's Award, Legislator of the Year in 1989, the Appreciation  
15 Award from Chalmette Strutters in 1994, the Strength in Age Award from Louisiana State  
16 University Medical Center in 1998, the Community Involvement Award for 1998-1999,  
17 Chamber of Commerce C. "Bud" Colomb Award in 2001, Civic Recognition Award, St.  
18 Bernard Business and Professional Women's Lifetime Achievement for Public Service to the  
19 People of St. Bernard Parish in 2002, and received a certificate of Special Recognition for  
20 fifty-two years of dedicated service from the Louisiana Center for Women and Government;  
21 and

22           WHEREAS, she served on the Board of Directors at St. Bernard Bank & Trust from  
23 1988 to 1997, as chairman of the St. Bernard Chapter March of Dimes in 1989, the Louisiana  
24 Clerks of Court Association, Insurance Committee from 1994 to 1996, and 1999 to 2001,  
25 the Louisiana Clerks of Court Association, board of directors from 1990 to 1992, and  
26 1999 to 2001, Louisiana Clerks of Court Association, Court Appeal Liaison Committee from  
27 1999 to 2001, as grand marshal at the Arabi School Mardi Gras Parade in 1994, as grand  
28 marshal at San Pedro Pescador 50th Year Boat Blessing in 1997, as master of ceremonies  
29 for the St. Bernard Catholic Church Caldo/Gumbo Festivadid in 1999, as hostess for  
30 Cinemagic in 2000, St. Bernard Parish Choruses as honorary chairperson of Annual Sweet

1 Times in St. Bernard in 2001, Benefit Family Services of St. Bernard Children's Service  
2 Fund, and as honorary hostess for Family Services of St. Bernard Children's Fund in 2001;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Lena R. Torres was selected Woman of the Year by St. Bernard  
5 Business and Professional Women's Club for 1993-1994, Woman of Fashion, Men of  
6 Fashion, Prix d'Elegance in 1993; and

7 WHEREAS, she was inducted into the Hall of Fame, Men of Fashion, Women of  
8 Fashion, Prix d'Elegance in 2002, and into the Hall of Fame-Louisiana Center for Women  
9 in Government and Business, Sports Hall of Fame, American Italian Society in 2002; and

10 WHEREAS, Lena R. Torres was recognized in 2009 by the Louisiana State Senate  
11 and House of Representatives in Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 153 and House  
12 Resolution No. 135 for her many years of invaluable public service to the citizens of  
13 St. Bernard Parish; and

14 WHEREAS, she is a staple and St. Bernard Parish fixture who deserves to be  
15 honored and respected for her commitment to public service, community involvement, and  
16 the positive impact she has bestowed on her community, parish, and the state of Louisiana;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, not only is Lena R. Torres respected and admired in her professional  
19 life for her charm, integrity, and compassion, but she is also beloved by those in her personal  
20 life; and

21 WHEREAS, because of her numerous accomplishments in public and private life,  
22 she will forever be remembered by all the people whose lives she has touched, and the joy  
23 she leaves in the hearts of all those who have the honor of knowing her; and

24 WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities,  
25 and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon people like  
26 Lena Torres, who devote and dedicate their life and time to public service and who use their  
27 considerable talents and resources to benefit future generations.

28 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
29 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and extend congratulations to Lena R.  
30 Torres on her many years of outstanding public service and her numerous contributions to

1 her community and her state, recognize her for her many extraordinary accomplishments,  
2 and wish her much success in all her future endeavors.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
4 Lena R. Torres.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HR 296 Original

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Garofalo

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