

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 12

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDMONSTON

A RESOLUTION

To commend Bobbie Blanchard and recognize her foundation, Beau Porto Special Tuesday, on its twenty-fifth anniversary.

WHEREAS, for the past twenty-five years, Beau Porto Special Tuesday has provided services to persons with disabilities in Ascension Parish and in surrounding parishes; and

WHEREAS, the program offers educational, recreational, and social opportunities for physically, mentally, or emotionally disabled individuals and their families; and

WHEREAS, Bobbie Blanchard, the founder of Beau Porto Special Tuesday, was inspired to create this foundation after seeing her physically handicapped grandson, Beau Porto, struggle to enjoy activities with other children his age; and

WHEREAS, the program began with roughly fifty participants but has since grown to nearly three hundred as of last summer; since there are no summer special education programs in the Ascension Parish public school system, the summer programs are popular opportunities for participants to make friends and connect with others; the program also hosts an annual Christmas party; and

WHEREAS, Beau Porto Special Tuesday has participants from Ascension and Assumption parishes as well as those who travel from Gramercy, Litcher, Baton Rouge, and even Texas; and

WHEREAS, as the program grew, it partnered with the Ascension Parish School Board to provide nutritional food choices for its participants; both the parish council and the school board have also assisted the program with locations where the program can be held, and local businesses have joined in by providing supplies and donations; the Sorrento Fire Department and the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office have offered demonstrations to teach the program's participants about the importance of fire safety and building good relationships with law enforcement officers; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, Ms. Blanchard received the Angel Award from Blue Cross and Blue Shield for her incredible work to assist the disabled citizens of Louisiana, and she has been recognized numerous times throughout the past twenty-five years for her heroic work; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Blanchard is a proven leader in Louisiana and her selfless dedication to the disabled members of our community through the foundation of Beau Porto Special Tuesday is undoubtedly worthy of recognition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Bobbie Blanchard for her dedication to the disabled citizens of Louisiana on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of her foundation, Beau Porto Special Tuesday; does hereby express sincere gratitude to Ms. Blanchard for her selfless sense of civic duty; and does hereby extend hopes and wishes for the continued success of Beau Porto Special Tuesday.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Bobbie Blanchard.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES