

2022 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 100

BY SENATOR TARVER

COMMENDATIONS. Commends the Southern University at Shreveport AmeriCorps Seniors of Caddo/Bossier/DeSoto Foster Grandparent Volunteer Program for its 42nd year of exceptional service in Caddo, Bossier, and Desoto Parishes.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend AmeriCorps Seniors Southern University (SUSLA) Caddo/Bossier/Desoto
3 Foster Grandparent Volunteer Program for its forty-two years of exceptional service.

4 WHEREAS, AmeriCorps is a federal agency with a mission to bring people together
5 to tackle the country's most pressing challenges through national service and volunteering,
6 and every year the agency places more than 270,000 AmeriCorps members and AmeriCorps
7 Senior volunteers with organizations across the country; and

8 WHEREAS, AmeriCorps Seniors includes a national Foster Grandparent Program
9 (FGP) that engages volunteers who are age fifty-five years and above to serve as role
10 models, mentors, and friends to children; and

11 WHEREAS, the AmeriCorps Seniors Caddo/Bossier FGP has operated in the
12 Shreveport/Bossier City area since 1980, providing volunteer support to meet critical
13 community needs while also providing high quality volunteer experiences for the
14 participants; and

15 WHEREAS, on July 1, 2021, Southern University at Shreveport (SUSLA) became
16 the FGP's sponsor and DeSoto Parish was added to the program's service area; and

17 WHEREAS, over the past forty-two years, the staff and volunteers of the
18 Caddo/Bossier/Desoto FGP have given the extra love, nurturing, and understanding to fill

1 gaps in available services by bringing children in need together with seniors in a constructive
2 setting that is mutually beneficial; and

3 WHEREAS, the program's army of volunteers helps children to learn to read,
4 provides one-on-one tutoring, mentors troubled teenagers and young mothers, and assists in
5 the care for premature infants, children with disabilities, and children who have been abused
6 or neglected; and

7 WHEREAS, outcomes as a direct result of the program include a fifteen percent gain
8 in language skills by participant children over peers not supported by Foster Grandparents
9 and steady growth in the six core domains of gross motor skills, fine motor skills, cognitive
10 skills, language skills, self-help, and social-emotional behavior as measured with the Early
11 Learning Accomplishment Profile assessment; and

12 WHEREAS, SUSLA's AmeriCorps Seniors Caddo/Bossier/Desoto Foster
13 Grandparent Program continues to provide the personal attention to local children that is
14 essential to help youth grow, gain confidence, and succeed as productive members of society
15 while providing the senior volunteers with the joy and satisfaction of being a needed and
16 vital part of their communities.

17 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
18 does hereby commend SUSLA's AmeriCorps Seniors Caddo/Bossier/Desoto Foster
19 Grandparent Program and its staff and volunteers for its forty-two years of exceptional
20 service to area children; does hereby extend best wishes for continued success in the future;
21 and does hereby recognize Thursday, May 5, 2022, as "AmeriCorps Seniors Foster
22 Grandparent Volunteer Day" at the Senate and extends best wishes for continued success in
23 the future.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to
25 Ms. Neva Jones, SUSLA Caddo/Bossier/Desoto FGP Director.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Kenyatta M. Honeycutt.

SR 100 Original

DIGEST
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Commends the SUSLA AmeriCorps Seniors Caddo/Bossier/DeSoto Foster Grandparent
Program and its staff and volunteers for its forty-two years of exceptional service.