

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 112

BY SENATORS FIELDS, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CONNICK, CORTEZ, FESI, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JACKSON, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PEACOCK, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, TARVER, WARD, WHITE AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Kelsie Tillage on earning the national Gold Medal Congressional Award.

WHEREAS, the Congressional Award was established in 1979 by Congress as a public-private partnership and is the only nonprofit organization affiliated with the United States Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Gold Medal Congressional Award is the highest honor a youth civilian can achieve through the United States Senate and House of Representatives which recognizes initiative, service, and achievement by youth ages fourteen through twenty-four; and

WHEREAS, since the inception of this prestigious award there have only been five thousand gold medalists and only eighty-four were from Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Kelsie Tillage is one of Louisiana's first high school students to receive the Gold Medal Congressional Award which requires four hundred hours of voluntary public service, two hundred hours of personal development, two hundred hours of physical fitness, and a five-day exploration; and

WHEREAS, Kelsie earned the four hundred hours of voluntary public service work by being involved in several volunteer ventures such as tutoring, reading, and creating book logs for children, letter-writing campaigns, and providing digital content for nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, she achieved the two hundred hours of personal development and physical fitness requirements by participating in several extracurricular activities such as varsity and club volleyball, youth and government, Southern University Laboratory School (SULS) Student Government Association, where she served as secretary and vice president, and Level 3 Photography in Futures Fund; and

WHEREAS, Kelsie met the five-day exploration requirement during her exploration of South Africa in which she deciphered dialects of different languages; and

WHEREAS, as a junior at SULS in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with a 4.29-grade point average, she is dually enrolled at Southern University in honors and advance placement courses, is a published author, and a regional teen officer for Jack and Jill of America, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, Kelsie says, "Receiving this award is truly an honor, and more importantly, I hope to inspire others to be more involved in their communities to elevate themselves and those around them."; and

WHEREAS, she further states, "I hope that receiving this award allows me to broaden my reach in my endeavors to create and explore."; and

WHEREAS, after being published in an anthology, Kelsie is inspired to create her own, titled *Unpopular Opinions*, set to release in Summer 2022, because she says, "I realized many people have vast opinions and stories that they want to share."; and

WHEREAS, Kelsie has promised to keep her journey updated at kelsieania.com; and

WHEREAS, the accomplishments obtained by Kelsie Tillage thus far indicate that the future of this young woman from Louisiana will yield boundless opportunities for personal and societal growth for the betterment of mankind.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Kelsie Tillage on earning the national Gold Medal Congressional Award, does hereby record for posterity her accomplishments, and does hereby extend best wishes for continued success and happiness in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Kelsie Tillage.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE