

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY SENATOR JACKSON

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Isiah Chavis for winning the 2023 George A. Spiegelberg Award as Best Oral Advocate at the National Trial Competition.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate Isiah Chavis for winning the 2023 George A. Spiegelberg  
3 Award as Best Oral Advocate at the National Trial Competition.

4 WHEREAS, the National Trial Competition was established in 1975 to encourage  
5 and strengthen student's advocacy skills through quality competition and valuable interaction  
6 with members of the bench and bar; and

7 WHEREAS, the competition is designed to expose law students to the nature of trial  
8 practice and serve as a supplement to their education; and

9 WHEREAS, the competition, which attracts teams from more than 150 law schools  
10 and involves more than 1,000 law students, allows for a team of two law students from the  
11 same school to represent fictitious parties that are either the plaintiff/prosecutor or the  
12 defendant in a mock trial; and

13 WHEREAS, the students are scored by members of the bench and bar on how they  
14 present and argue their side of the case through their opening statements, closing arguments,  
15 direct and cross examination of witnesses, and pretrial, and during trial motions and  
16 objections; and

17 WHEREAS, to compete at the national event, participants must be one of the top two  
18 teams at one of the fifteen regional qualifiers, and at both the regional and national stage of

1 the competition, teams qualify through competition in preliminary rounds, a quarterfinal  
2 round, a semi-final round, and then the final round; and

3 WHEREAS, at the 2023 National Trial Competition held in San Antonio, Texas, on  
4 March 30th through April 3rd, the Mercer University team of Isiah Chavis and John Flowers  
5 made it to the semi-final round and Isiah Chavis was awarded the George A. Spiegelberg  
6 Award for the Best Oral Advocate of the competition; and

7 WHEREAS, originally from Church Point, Louisiana, Isiah is currently a third-year  
8 law student at Mercer University School of Law in Macon, Georgia, a 2020 graduate of  
9 University of Louisiana at Monroe in Monroe, Louisiana, and a 2016 graduate of Northside  
10 High School in Lafayette, Louisiana; and

11 WHEREAS, Isiah has been competing and excelling in mock trial competitions since  
12 high school and has been coached along his way by Liz Tullier in high school, Bob Noel and  
13 Kyle Moore in college, and Katie Powers in law school; and

14 WHEREAS, Isiah attributes his success and that of his team to many hours of  
15 dedicated practice and preparation; to his coaches, he is known for his strong work ethic and  
16 true leadership; and

17 WHEREAS, the hard work and success achieved by Isiah Chavis in being named the  
18 best advocate in the country in the National Trial Competition merits a special measure of  
19 commendation for the pride it brings to his hometown of Church Point and his home state  
20 of Louisiana.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
22 does hereby commend and congratulate Isiah Chavis for winning the 2023 George A.  
23 Spiegelberg Award as Best Oral Advocate at the National Trial Competition.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
25 Isiah Chavis.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Dawn Romero Watson.

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SR 29 Original

DIGEST  
2023 Regular Session

Jackson

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Advocate at the National Trial Competition.