

2024 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 52

BY SENATORS JENKINS AND PRESSLY

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Dr. Michelle Yetman for her extraordinary community outreach to improve the lives of those with disabilities and the nonmedical professionals who deal with individuals with disabilities.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Dr. Michelle Yetman for her extraordinary community outreach.

3 WHEREAS, allied health professionals make up sixty percent of all healthcare
4 workers in the United States with only one percent of clinical allied health professionals
5 working in academic roles involving teaching and research; and

6 WHEREAS, clinical psychologists play immeasurable roles as allied health
7 professionals they assess, diagnose, and treat people with various conditions such as
8 depression, anxiety, trauma, and personality disorders; and

9 WHEREAS, the conditions treated by clinical psychologists are among the most life
10 altering to patients and their families; and

11 WHEREAS, a clinical psychologist at the School of Allied Health Professions has
12 gone beyond expectations to improve the lives of those with autistic spectrum disorders
13 through early identification, diagnosis, and promotion of early intervention programs,
14 including assuring Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) therapy is accessible in north
15 Louisiana for patients and their families in need; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Michelle Yetman is a faculty member with outstanding experience
17 and educational credentials, which includes serving as an Associate Professor and Clinical
18 Psychologist at LSU Health Shreveport, an earned PhD in clinical psychology from

1 Gallaudet University in 2000, an APA-approved clinical internship at the University of
2 Maryland Medical Center, in Baltimore, Maryland, and specialized training in the diagnosis
3 of autistic spectrum disorders at the Center for the Atypical Child at the University at Mount
4 Washington Pediatric Hospital; she is a licensed clinical psychologist who is a member of
5 both the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Louisiana Psychological
6 Association (LPA); and

7 WHEREAS, the faculty member is especially interested in empowering parents in
8 the diagnostic and evaluation process, engaging collaborative, multidisciplinary teams for
9 diagnosis and intervention, supporting and educating families and service providers, and
10 offering technical assistance and outreach to community agencies; and

11 WHEREAS, ABA therapy is a scientific and evidence-based approach that helps
12 individuals with autism learn and develop skills that will enhance their lives throughout
13 adulthood; and

14 WHEREAS, in addition to making training available to individuals and their families
15 on the autism spectrum, this trailblazer has created training for first responders who
16 frequently deal with individuals on the autism spectrum; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Yetman trained the entire Shreveport police force on how to interact
18 with individuals with autistic spectrum disorders; and

19 WHEREAS, she also partnered with the Shreveport police force to establish an
20 opportunity for individuals with autism and other spectrum-related disorders to interact with
21 police in a nonemergent situation in an effort to build trust between individuals with
22 disabilities and first responders; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Yetman frequently educates the community through a variety of
24 media channels on how to access resources for their loved ones with disabilities as well as
25 tools to make their lives better.

26 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
27 does hereby commend Dr. Michelle Yetman for her extraordinary community outreach to
28 improve the lives of those with disabilities and the nonmedical professionals who deal with
29 individuals with disabilities.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr.

1 Michelle Yetman in appreciation for her efforts.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Celeste D. Ellis.

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DIGEST
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Jenkins

Commends Dr. Michelle Yetman for her extraordinary community outreach.