

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 166

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Steve Cochran for his work towards solving environmental issues in the state

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Steve Cochran for his work towards solving environmental issues in the state.

3 WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Steve Cochran for dedicating more than
4 thirty years of service to finding and implementing multi-disciplinary approaches to complex
5 environmental problems facing the state of Louisiana; and

6 WHEREAS, Steve helped elevate Louisiana while serving as the legislative director
7 for then-congressman, Buddy Roemer, and he fiercely advocated on the state's behalf while
8 in Washington, D.C.; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Cochran took the helm of the newly-created Lake Pontchartrain
10 Basin Foundation in 1990; he helped launch and implement the widely successful "Save Our
11 Lake" campaign, which raised public awareness about the foundation's role in protecting
12 waterways and helped stabilize the lake's water quality; that same year, he worked with the
13 state to ban clamshell dredging in the lake, which helped restore the clam population and
14 overall health of the lake; and

15 WHEREAS, Steve returned to Washington, D.C., to work with the federal
16 Environmental Protection Agency to develop and initiate early climate policy for the
17 country; in 1997, he began a twenty-six-year career with the Environmental Defense Fund
18 (EDF), during which he served in several key positions and advanced national climate
19 policies regarding air quality; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Cochran returned to Louisiana in 2013 and helped EDF deepen its
21 engagement in the state; he placed particular emphasis on restoring the state's bountiful

1 coastal ecosystem; he led a diverse coalition of partners called Restore the Mississippi River
2 Delta; and

3 WHEREAS, Steve was chosen in 2017 by Governor John Bel Edwards to serve on
4 the Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal Protection, Restoration and Conservation;
5 he also served on the Equity Advisory Group for the state's Climate Action Plan that was
6 released in 2022; and

7 WHEREAS, Steve rounded out his tenure with the EDF by creating a state affairs
8 program that blended his environmental and political work and continues to forge important
9 partnerships and environmental wins at the state level; he continues his work as a mentor on
10 the board of directors with New Harmony High School in New Orleans, a school he helped
11 start in 2017; and

12 WHEREAS, Steve Cochran is a truly inspiring individual who is most deserving of
13 the highest recognition for his four-decade career in service of the state of Louisiana.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
15 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Steve Cochran for his work towards solving
16 environmental issues in the state and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that he continue
17 to prosper in all of his endeavors.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 166 Original

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