

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 97

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Iam Tucker for being named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2024 Louisiana Small Business Person of the Year.

WHEREAS, Iam Tucker, a former Baton Rouge police officer and daughter of legendary civil rights activist and businessman Robert H. Tucker, was named in March as the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2024 Louisiana Small Business Person of the Year; and

WHEREAS, Robert H. Tucker established civil engineering contractor ILSI Engineering in the early 1990s after years of activism, municipal politics, and successful business ventures, leaving a lasting legacy of entrepreneurship and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, Iam Tucker, as a second-generation owner of ILSI, has demonstrated exceptional leadership and entrepreneurial skills, generating over 100 contract awards across various state, local, and federal agencies and growing the company from nine employees to 50 employees, with a revenue exceeding \$7.5 million; and

WHEREAS, Iam Tucker's contributions extend beyond Louisiana, as evidenced by her involvement in the \$1 billion River District project, the largest public-private project in Louisiana history, and securing the first overseas contract for her firm in Peru, showcasing her commitment to excellence and innovation in business; and

WHEREAS, Iam Tucker's dedication to her father's legacy and her achievements as a successful businesswoman reflect her commitment to economic growth, job creation, and community development in Louisiana and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Iam Tucker's journey exemplifies the challenges and triumphs of minority-owned businesses, highlighting the need for continued support and programs to ensure equitable access to contracts and opportunities for disadvantaged business enterprises; and

WHEREAS, Iam Tucker's recognition as the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2024 Louisiana Small Business Person of the Year is a testament to her hard work, perseverance, and dedication to excellence in business and community service.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Iam Tucker for her outstanding achievements as the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2024 Louisiana Small Business Person of the Year and extend best wishes for continued success in business and service to the community.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE