

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 153

BY SENATOR HENSGENS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Colonel Rachel Zechenelly for her outstanding service and dedication to the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and to congratulate her on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, Colonel Rachel Zechenelly has served the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the citizens of Louisiana for nearly twenty-five years, making history as the department's first female colonel; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Zechenelly entered the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Training Academy in 1999 as a cadet in Class 13; and

WHEREAS, upon graduation from the academy, Colonel Zechenelly was assigned as a field agent in the state's southeast region before being promoted to headquarters staff in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Zechenelly became the state's boating law administrator, where she was instrumental in implementing the safe boating program and several substantial changes to boating law; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Zechenelly also served on both the administrative and patrol sides of the enforcement division, and has overseen the division's budget, communications, emergency services, recruiting, safe boating program, and training; she has also supervised four patrol regions across the state; and

WHEREAS, throughout her distinguished career, Colonel Zechenelly has earned an enviable assemblage of awards and distinctions, including the LDWF Meritorious Service Awards for hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Harvey, Irma, and Ida, the 2016 flood, and the BP oil spill; she was named the LDWF Agent of the Year for Headquarters Staff in 2008 and received the LDWF Chief's Award in 2022.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Colonel Rachel Zechenelly on an exemplary career in the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Enforcement Division on the occasion of her retirement on May 24, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Colonel Rachel Zechenelly.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE