

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 388

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Wade Dubea on the occasion of his retirement from state service

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Wade Dubea on the occasion of his retirement from state service.

3 WHEREAS, Wade Dubea is a resident of New Roads and is married to Marjorie
4 Dubea, with whom he has two daughters and two granddaughters; he and his wife are
5 passionate about learning and teaching about the environment and nature, and he has been
6 able to share this love through his storied career in forestry; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea graduated with a bachelor of science degree in forestry from
8 Louisiana State University; he returned to LSU to enter the College of Education's
9 Alternative Certification program, where he earned a Louisiana Teacher Certification in
10 secondary science; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea's career included work as a high school teacher and
12 professional forester for private timber companies; after graduating from LSU, he worked
13 as a forester in Texas and Louisiana, and his responsibilities included timber production,
14 assessment, and mapping; as an educator, he taught biology and environmental science at
15 a Baton Rouge high school; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea joined the staff of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture
17 and Forestry in 2001; he began as a forester in the Louisiana Forest Inventory Analysis
18 Program and was promoted to the role of director of the Education Program; as director, he
19 provided Louisiana students and educators with forestry-related programs, including
20 Louisiana Project Learning Tree and the Louisiana Forestry Educators Tour; he was later

1 selected to serve as chief of the information and education branch of the office of forestry;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea was selected as Louisiana's state forester by the Louisiana
4 Forestry Commission in 2008; in this role, he served as the assistant commissioner of
5 forestry within the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry and was responsible
6 for protecting, managing, and promoting the state's forest resource; he served as a strategic
7 planner, wildfire leader, educator, and liaison to promote protection, sustainability, and
8 economic viability of the state's forest resource; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea became the longest-tenured state forester in the country in
10 2023 and has proudly held that distinction for the past three years; in the same year, he led
11 wildfire suppression efforts in one of the state's most devastating wildfire events; he
12 coordinated office of forestry personnel in cooperation with private, parish, state, and federal
13 partners alongside structural firefighters and Louisiana National Guard personnel who
14 worked diligently to control and suppress wildfires; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea received the Louisiana Distinguished Civilian Service
16 Award for his efforts in wildfire suppression; the award is presented by the Adjutant General
17 of the Louisiana National Guard on recommendation of an awards board to a civilian whose
18 service is exceptional and has made significant contributions to the state's mission; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Dubea has since worked with employees and stakeholders to better
20 prepare personnel and resources for future wildfire events; in this capacity, he recommended
21 changes based on past experiences, training opportunities, education, and landowner
22 outreach; he has worked diligently to maintain and enhance the office of forestry while
23 operating within administrative and financial guidelines; and

24 WHEREAS, Wade Dubea is a distinguished leader and technical expert within the
25 forestry industry, and after twenty-five years of dedicated service to the Louisiana
26 Department of Agriculture and Forestry and to Louisiana citizens, he will retire from public
27 service on August 20, 2026; he is deserving of recognition for his outstanding contributions
28 to the state of Louisiana.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
30 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Wade Dubea on the occasion of his

1 retirement from state service; does hereby express enduring appreciation for his dedication
2 to Louisiana's forest resource; and does hereby extend sincere wishes that he remain
3 prosperous in 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 388 Original

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McFarland

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