

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY SENATORS GALLOT, KOSTELKA AND JOHN SMITH AND REPRESENTATIVE
DIXON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend the Alexandria Zoo and its latest exhibit, the Land of the Jaguar.

WHEREAS, the Land of the Jaguar was funded by a grant from the City of Alexandria's Special Planned Activity Redevelopment Corridors, with additional funding from the city of Alexandria, the Friends of the Alexandria Zoo, and private and corporate donors; and

WHEREAS, the jaguar is the largest feline in the western hemisphere, and its present range, in the wild, extends from Mexico across much of Central and South America; and

WHEREAS, the Land of the Jaguar's unique environment includes giant rocks, rivers, waterfalls, lush vegetation, and South American structures including a replica of a Mayan temple, ruins of Central America, the Amazon rainforest, and vestiges of the Andes Mountains; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Zoo has successfully bred Bengal tigers, Kumar and Hannah, that produced a pair of white tigers in 2006, named B.B. King and Lanie, born just days prior to the zoo's eightieth anniversary celebration; and

WHEREAS, in 1986, the Alexandria Zoo successfully met the highest zoo standards in the world when it achieved accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and the zoo has since been reaccredited in 1991, 1996, 2001, 2008, and 2013, being one of only two hundred and twelve accredited zoos in the world; and

WHEREAS, in addition to Bengal tigers, rare and significant births at the zoo include maned wolves, clouded leopards, African servals, dik-dik antelope, and flamingos; and

WHEREAS, the Land of the Jaguar is one of only twenty zoos in the world to house Malayan tigers, one of ten zoos in North America to exhibit lowland anoa, and the only facility in North America to exhibit two white-tailed sea eagles; and

WHEREAS, as a number one family oriented, educational tourist attraction in central Louisiana, the Alexandria Zoo has a significant horticulture collection consisting of varied and rare species of trees, shrubs, and bamboo; and

WHEREAS, the Land of the Jaguar, the South American area renovation to the zoo, is an extensive multi-species habitat featuring jaguars, spectacled bears, ocelots, monkeys, crocodiles, anteaters, and more; and

WHEREAS, visitors to the Land of the Jaguar will be immersed in a unique environment created with giant rocks, rivers, waterfalls, lush vegetation, and South American structures; and

WHEREAS, the Land of the Jaguar is the largest project undertaken by the zoo since the creation of the Louisiana Habitat exhibit; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Zoo was named as one of the best small town zoos by Jack Hanna, the renowned television wildlife conservationist and animal adventurer.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Alexandria Zoo and its latest exhibit, the Land of the Jaguar.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Alexandria Zoo and the Friends of the Alexandria Zoo.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES