

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 179

BY REPRESENTATIVE ADAMS

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Belinda Constant upon her election as the first woman to serve as mayor of Gretna, Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Belinda Constant upon her election as the first woman to serve as mayor of
3 Gretna, Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, Belinda Constant began her elective public service as a city council
5 member in Gretna and on April 6, 2013, she was elected mayor of that city, being the first
6 woman to so serve; and

7 WHEREAS, the mayoral election was greatly anticipated in the community as the
8 previous mayor decided not to run after serving seven terms; and

9 WHEREAS, on her road to victory in the mayoral race, Belinda Constant faced
10 another member of the city council; and

11 WHEREAS, Belinda was first elected to the Gretna City Council in 2005, just a few
12 months before the greater New Orleans area was devastated by Hurricane Katrina and its
13 aftermath; and

14 WHEREAS, Belinda's initial term was so successful that in 2010 she was reelected
15 without opposition; and

16 WHEREAS, Belinda is a native of New Orleans and a longtime resident of Gretna,
17 Louisiana; and

18 WHEREAS, Belinda graduated from Archbishop Blenk High School (now combined
19 to form the Academy of Our Lady, a Catholic high school for girls in Marrero) and attended
20 Louisiana State University; and

1 WHEREAS, Belinda is married to Ronnie Constant, and they have raised three
2 children on the Westbank; and

3 WHEREAS, her work history includes ownership and operation of a court reporting
4 business and service as the administrator of both the Jefferson Parish Intensive Probation
5 Drug Court and the Louisiana Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals, from which she is now retired;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, during her campaign for mayor, Belinda touted her experience, gleaned
8 from having taken office mere months before Hurricane Katrina, in navigating federal
9 agencies to secure resources and reimbursements as a significant qualification for serving
10 as the mayor of Gretna; and

11 WHEREAS, her civic involvements have been many, including participation in the
12 Leadership Louisiana Program offered by the Council for a Better Louisiana in 2006, and
13 contributions to St. Joseph Church development, the Gretna Economic Development
14 Association, the Gretna Farmers' Market and Artwalk, the Gretna Heritage Festival, the
15 Gretna Historical Society, the Friends of the German-American Cultural Center, the Friends
16 of Jefferson the Beautiful, the Jefferson Historical Society of Louisiana, the Louisiana
17 Municipal Association, and the Louisiana Association of Drug Court Professionals; and

18 WHEREAS, Belinda's plans for her first term as mayor of Gretna include continuing
19 to explore and develop economic opportunities by seeking parish, state, and federal grants,
20 to upgrade the greatly stressed utility systems in the area, and to continue to expand social
21 and recreational opportunities for the citizens of Gretna, with a special focus on senior
22 citizens and youth.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
24 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Belinda Constant upon her election as the
25 first woman to serve as mayor of Gretna, Louisiana.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
27 to the Honorable Belinda Constant, Mayor of Gretna, Louisiana.

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)]

Adams

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