

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 19

BY REPRESENTATIVE FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To commend Rory and Maeve McCracken upon their receipt of Oceana's 2013 Ocean Hero Award.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Rory and Maeve McCracken for their heroic and courageous efforts after the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, which sent millions of barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Ocean Hero Award recognizes and celebrates exceptional accomplishments in ocean conservation, advocacy, and education; and

WHEREAS, in the wake of the devastating Deepwater Horizon oil spill, Rory and Maeve McCracken were so upset after they realized the hazardous and dangerous affects the oil was having on the ecosystem of the Gulf Coast and that animals were dying, that they started a website to raise money to help the recovery effort; and

WHEREAS, Rory and Maeve envisioned the website as a place to raise money to donate to the cause and to let other young people know how they could help in the recovery efforts as well; and

WHEREAS, through their relentless and consistent efforts, Rory and Maeve raised eight thousand dollars to rescue and rehabilitate wildlife via the Louisiana Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Rescue Program; and

WHEREAS, the siblings have also published an illustrated ABC's book, *G is for Gulf*, which features their own stories and illustrations, and have donated copies of the book to elementary school libraries and classrooms in Louisiana, Florida, and Honduras; and

WHEREAS, Rory and Maeve presented some of their work at Louisiana State University's "Ocean Commotion", which brings close to three thousand area students and teachers to learn about the Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, Rory and Maeve have also been making presentations to elementary school students on sharks and aspire to help grow an artificial reef off of the Gulf Coast of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Rory and Maeve McCracken are among Louisiana's finest citizens, and they merit the highest measure of commendation for their leadership and bravery in their efforts protecting the ecosystem of the Gulf Coast that will rehabilitate, restore, beautify, and enhance the quality of life for all citizens of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize and express appreciation to Rory and Maeve McCracken upon their selection as the recipients of Oceana's 2013 Ocean Hero Award, do hereby record for posterity their amazing efforts in helping to protect the precious wildlife of the Gulf Coast, and do hereby recognize the tremendous pride and honor that they bring to their family, their community, and the entire state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Rory and Maeve McCracken.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES