

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 188

BY SENATOR MURRAY

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Bernard Chatters on being elected the first African American president of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Bernard Chatters on being elected the first African American president of the
3 Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association.

4 WHEREAS, horse owner and trainer Bernard Chatters was elected president of the
5 Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association in a run-off election held April
6 28, 2014; and

7 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association was
8 formed in 1940 by a group of committed horsemen in New England; and

9 WHEREAS, Bernard Chatters is the first African American to hold the post as
10 president; and

11 WHEREAS, nationally, the association has developed into an organization
12 representing the interest of horsemen on a myriad of issues; and

13 WHEREAS, there currently are over thirty thousand owner and trainer members of
14 the association throughout the United States and Canada; and

15 WHEREAS, Bernard Chatters, born and educated in New Orleans, Louisiana, has
16 a genuine love for horses and horse racing; and

17 WHEREAS, the New Orleans native has resided for the past fourteen years in Lake
18 Charles, Louisiana; and

1 WHEREAS, Bernard Chatters worked part-time as a hot-walker and a groomer at the
2 fairgrounds and the old Jefferson Downs racetracks, while earning his degree in sociology
3 and criminology from Dillard University, and this firsthand experience at the lower level of
4 the industry served him well once he became an owner and trainer; and

5 WHEREAS, Bernard Chatters has secured licenses in Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas,
6 New York, and Kentucky; and

7 WHEREAS, as a horseman and family man, Bernard Chatters has come to know the
8 ups and downs of the horse racing industry; and

9 WHEREAS, Bernard Chatters believes that the core of thriving racetrack, farm, or
10 racehorse operation is good management combined with respect and careful consideration
11 for all involved; and

12 WHEREAS, Bernard Chatters said that he "has a commitment to using the post as
13 a means of developing a progressive agenda which will be consistent with the association's
14 mission to improve horse racing across the state"; and

15 WHEREAS, he promises to maintain a steadfast approach with respect to tradition,
16 honor, and integrity issues; and

17 WHEREAS, he commits to the reforming of payment procedures, developing a
18 trainer financed retirement account, and improving the knowledge level regarding the horse
19 racing industry among legislators and others; and

20 WHEREAS, Bernard Chatters has been actively involved in the current session of
21 the Louisiana Legislature, advocating for the passage of progressive legislation and the
22 defeat of other legislation that would be detrimental to the horse racing industry.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
24 does hereby commend Bernard Chatters on being elected the first African American
25 president of the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
27 Bernard Chatters and the Louisiana Horsemen's Benevolent & Protective Association.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Angela L. De Jean.

DIGEST

Murray

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