

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 205

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ADLEY, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To commend Senator Almond Gaston "A.G." Crowe for his seventeen years of legislative and local public service and to express enduring gratitude for his outstanding contributions made on behalf of the parishes of St. Tammany, Plaquemines, Orleans, and St. Bernard, and the state of Louisiana, particularly his tenure as a distinguished member of the Louisiana Legislature representing Senate District 1 and House of Representatives District 76 for a total of sixteen years, and to offer the best wishes of his fellow senators as he returns to the private sector to spend time with his family and pursue his various business interests.

WHEREAS, Senator Crowe is well known as a kind, compassionate servant of the people who has represented his constituents with integrity and respect and, to the best of his abilities, as a Christian who is always endeavoring to follow the principles found in the Holy Bible; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in the Senate, Senator Crowe served as the chairman of the standing Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations, chairman of the Select Committee on Consumer Affairs and Technology, vice chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and International Affairs, as a member of the Senate Retirement Committee, a member of the Senate Coastal Restoration and Flood Control Committee, a member of the Oversight of the Greater New Orleans Expressway Committee, chairman of the Louisiana Balance of Powers Study Commission, and chairman of the Lower Pearl River Basin Ecosystem Study Commission, member of the Oversight Board for BP Oil Disaster, member of the House Special Committee on Coastal Restoration and Flood Control, member of the House Special Committee on Disaster Planning, member of House Special Committee on Crisis Management, Recovery and Long-Term Revitalization,

member of the Governor's Healthcare Reform Committee, and member of the Hurricane Katrina Memorial Commission, the first chairman of the North Shore Legislative Delegation; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crowe has served his church in various positions, including his service as a deacon, Sunday school teacher, and Youth Department Director at First Baptist Church of Slidell; and

WHEREAS, he has served his community in various civic organizations including former St. Tammany Parish School Board member, president, vice president, and board member of St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation, member of the Slidell Boys and Girls Club "Centurion Club", member and former board member of Slidell Rotary Club, past board member of Slidell Boys and Girls Club, board member Vice President, and President; coach of the Slidell Youth Basketball League, member of the Noon Lions Club in Slidell, member of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation, member of the National Rifle Association, National Panelist for Prevention of Underage Drinking (one of five legislators nationwide), and member of Americans for Tax Reform; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crowe has received numerous civic and legislative awards for his service including Legislator of the Year "Gladiator" Award for 10 years of 100% Family Values voting record with the Louisiana Family Forum, eleven-time recipient of the Patrick Henry Award for family values voting record Louisiana, Technology Council of Greater New Orleans, Inc., WARD Winner for Outstanding Leadership in Technology, Legislator of the Year from Common Sense Against Crime, Legislator of the Year from CRIMEFIGHTERS of Louisiana, Legislator of the Year from Louisiana Association of Self Insured Employers, Slidell High School Employer of the Year Award, Governor's Office of Disability Affairs "Policymaker of the Year" Award, Businessman of the Year by Slidell Chamber of Commerce, 2002 and 2008 Legislator of the Year Award from the Alliance For Good Government, and Legislator of the Year Award from Louisiana ARC; and

WHEREAS, he is proud to have participated in training the next generation through his service as a former adjunct professor at Southeastern Louisiana University and currently as a past and current substitute teacher for the St. Tammany Parish School System; and

WHEREAS, among his greatest legislative accomplishments is Act 699 of the 2008

Regular Session which created the Louisiana International Deep Water Gulf Transfer Terminal Authority (LIGTT) and for which he has served as president of the authority since that time; and

WHEREAS, LIGTT is poised to create a deep water transfer terminal to be located just east of the mouth of the Mississippi River where the Southwest Pass meets the Gulf of Mexico, covering over two thousand acres, with a depth of seventy feet, and on land owned by the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, his legislative goals, some of which he has reached, have included introducing fiscal reform legislation and a constitutional amendment to allow for across-the-board reductions in state spending instead of raising taxes on citizens, working to eliminate 10% of the state's 16,000 consulting contracts to save \$750 million, reducing the out-migration of our graduates from Louisiana, and promoting economic development initiatives to create jobs in Louisiana, reducing the tax liabilities for all Louisiana citizens, introducing legislation to overhaul our income and spending practices to eliminate Fiscal Deficit Disorder, fully funding higher education, funding for flood protection for South Slidell floodgate and levee protection system for Eden Isles/Oak Harbor/Palm Lake/North Shore/Bayou Liberty areas of St. Tammany, raising the levees on the east bank of Plaquemines Parish, the preservation of the TOPS program, the preservation of traditional family value issues, preserving the sanctity of marriage, the protection of the unborn and the establishment of civil rights for the unborn, protecting the right to bear arms guaranteed by the Second Amendment, promoting teacher pay raises, supporting the senior citizens facilities in Slidell, St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes, supporting ethics laws to enhance the positive perception of Louisiana, fighting crime and criminals by supporting tough anti-crime legislation, continued funding for the Northshore Harbor Center and the East St. Tammany Chamber Facility, laws to protect our children from predators, and creating a more competitive and lower cost state insurance market to guarantee available and affordable insurance for our homes and businesses; and

WHEREAS, A.G. Crowe considers his greatest joys in this life, after knowing Jesus Christ, to be his marriage of forty-three years to Linda McCoin Crowe, a retired public school kindergarten teacher, and the birth of his two children, Aaron and Aimee, as well as

the birth of his seven grandchildren, Hannah Elizabeth, Beau Jack, Hutson, Malachi, Evangeline Grace, Atticus Gaston and (soon to be born) Maximus Levi; and

WHEREAS, early in life, A.G. Crowe was one of seven children reared in both St. Tammany Parish and New Orleans (Ninth Ward) where he graduated from F.T. Nichols High School and later attended Southeastern Louisiana University, where he received a Bachelors of Arts degree in Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, he went on to found a number of successful companies including The File Depot, LLC, X'press Imaging, a Xerox agency, St. Tammany Office Products (STOP!) and STOP! & Print; and

WHEREAS, Senator Crowe is the founder, CEO and president of The File Depot, LLC, a company which he founded in 2002 that has grown into a national franchise with fifty locations in fourteen states with another hundred sites planned before the end of the year; and

WHEREAS, A.G. Crowe began his career in public office as a member of the school board of St. Tammany Parish, then went on to serve the people of District 76 of the Louisiana House of Representatives before serving in his current capacity as the Senator for Senate District 1; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2012, Senator Crowe, along with other legislators, has participated in legislative events here at the Capitol and elsewhere in Louisiana to honor the state of Israel, which events have brought members of both the Christian and Jewish faiths together to share their common love for the law of Moses and the Hebrew Bible, also known as the Old Testament, and to show steadfast support for the state of Israel and God's desire for Israel to remain sovereign, free, and independent.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Honorable Almond Gaston "A.G." Crowe, extending honor and recognition to him for his outstanding accomplishments, particularly during his tenure as a member of the Louisiana State Senate and the Louisiana House of Representatives, which has been marked by his kind, compassionate, and generous nature who has represented his constituents with integrity and respect and does hereby pay tribute to him for the effective way in which he has dedicated his energy and drive to the service of his faith, family,

friends, community, state, and country.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana hereby expresses enduring gratitude to Senator Crowe for his service to the citizens of Louisiana, as evidenced by his superlative achievements as a member of this distinguished body, and hereby extends to him the best wishes of all of his colleagues for continued prosperity and success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Senator Almond Gaston "A.G." Crowe.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE