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RESOLUTION OF THE HOUMA-TERREBONNE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

WHEREAS, The Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce believes that a successful Terrebonne Parish School District is critical to the economic viability of our community;

WHEREAS, Terrebonne Parish School District is graded as a "B" district and ranked 18th out of 70 districts in performance;

WHEREAS, Terrebonne Parish School District ranks 68th out of 70 districts in per pupil spending and 47th in teacher salaries;

WHEREAS, funds from state grants and Section 16 land revenues, and frozen state revenues since 2008 have contributed to a decline in revenues;

WHEREAS, salaries for TPSD teachers and support staff have not increased for more than five years due to this declining revenue and increased mandated expenses like the District's contributions to the state retirement program;

WHEREAS, the Terrebonne Parish School District has cut over 500 employee positions over the past five years and struggles to fill vacant teaching positions with certified teachers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce endorses the Terrebonne Parish School District's half-cent sales tax proposition to be used to increase employee pay based on the assumption that all current salary funds remain intact and this tax will supplement current salary funds;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Terrebonne Parish School District Superintendent, the members of the School Board, and posted to the Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce website so that our support may known.

This Resolution was passed, approved, and adopted by the Board of the Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce this nineteenth day of August 2014.