

Friends,

Last Thursday, the Legislature adjourned the Louisiana 2021 General Legislative Session. This year's session was jam-packed with several necessary tax and infrastructure reforms. Additionally, we were able to strengthen our state's protections for sexual assault survivors. Despite the early mornings and long nights, we worked together as public servants to make our state more competitive, prosperous, and to protect all Louisianans.

<u>TAX REFORM:</u> Our most significant advancement was made with a tax reform package comprised of **SB157, 159, 160,** and **161 by Sen. Brett Allain, HB278** by **Rep. Stuart Bishop**, and **HB292** by **Rep. Neil Riser**. This package of legislation accomplished a few things, namely lowering income tax rates and simplifying our state's tax code. Additionally, **HB199** by **Speaker Clay Schexnayder** was passed, streamlining our state's sales tax collection. These reforms place our state one step closer to the forefront of economic competitiveness.

INFRASTRUCTURE: Far too long, Louisiana has fallen behind national ratings when it comes to infrastructure. That's why I was proud to work with my fellow legislators in finding bipartisan solutions to fund infrastructure on the state level. The most promising change came in the form of **HB514** by **Rep. Tanner Magee,** which will rededicate the existing vehicle sales tax to the Construction sub-fund of the Transportation Trust Fund— directly funding Louisiana's roads and bridges, including a new Mississippi River Bridge! This bill is the largest infrastructure investment since the 1980s, and we managed to pass it without raising taxes.

<u>WORKER SHORTAGE:</u> The governor signed **HB183** by **Rep. Chad Brown** that increases the state's unemployment benefits by \$28 a week starting next year in return for agreeing to withdraw the state from the federal stimulus program for those unemployed during the pandemic that bumps up unemployment payments by \$300. The deal drew the support of the state's largest business groups and helped resolve growing concerns that the increased federal benefits are causing a continued worker shortage.

<u>LSU SEXUAL ASSAULT SCANDAL</u>: In the past few months, all of us have been shocked to learn of the LSU Administration's failure to properly handle several sexual assault and harassment allegations levied against LSU athletes.

I was proud to sponsor and co-author **Sen. Beth Mizell's SB230**, which creates greater transparency and accountability in the Title IX reporting process, ensuring what happened at LSU is never repeated.

With COVID-19 cases declining dramatically, our country and our state are nearing the end of this pandemic. Like you all, I want Louisiana to take advantage of the opportunities afforded as we recover and build back stronger. Looking forward, I'm confident that the legislation passed in this session will prove a turning point for our state.

As always, thank you for your continued support. I will continue praying for you and your family's health and wellness. Please continue to send me your thoughts and ideas! My door is always open.

All the best,

Quela

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REP. DAVIS'S LEGISLATION

HB 42

Provides relative to financial aid

HB 115

Creates the Old Goodwood Crime Prevention and Neighborhood Improvement District in East Baton Rouge Parish

HB 316

Adds mucopolysaccharidosis type I and glycogen storage disorder type II to the state's newborn screening panel

HB 451

Provides for discounts and insurance rate reductions for residential and commercial buildings built to, or retrofitted to, reduce the threat of loss due to windstorm events

HB 452

Creates a domestic violence fatality review team within the Louisiana Department of Health

HCR 92

Requests the Louisiana State Law Institute to study provisions of law on partition of community property

HR 22

Commends the Louisiana Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) programs and volunteers and recognizes April 27, 2021, as CASA Day at the state capitol

HR 61

Designates May 5, 2021, as Tourism Day at the state capitol

HR 63

Recognizes May 5th, 2021 as Louisiana Chamber of Commerce Day at the state capitol

HR 99

Memorializes Congress to support the ABLE Age Adjustment Act

HR 157

Designates June 3, 2021, as Women in Public Office Day at the state capitol

