

Senate Resolution 1179

By: Senators Johnson of the 1st, Williams of the 19th, Wiles of the 37th and Balfour of the 9th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Mr. Billy Tauzin; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Mr. Billy Tauzin has devoted his entire life to serving the public, providing
3 invaluable leadership to his state and his nation throughout his long and distinguished career;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Mr. Tauzin received his Bachelor of Arts from Nicholls State University in
6 1964 and his law degree from Louisiana State University in 1967; and

7 WHEREAS, he began his political career in the Louisiana State Legislature, where he served
8 in a number of prestigious posts, including as chairman of the House Natural Resources
9 Committee and chief administration floor leader; his integrity and leadership earned him the
10 respect and admiration of constituents and colleagues, and he was twice named as one of
11 Louisiana's "Ten Best Legislators"; and

12 WHEREAS, in 1980, Mr. Tauzin was elected to the United States House of Representatives
13 to serve the people of the Third Congressional District of Louisiana; and

14 WHEREAS, during the course of his long and successful tenure in Congress, Mr. Tauzin
15 held a number of key leadership positions, including chairman of a Merchant Marine
16 Subcommittee that oversaw legislation related to the Exxon Valdez oil spill and chairman
17 of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, where he worked on many important
18 matters, including natural gas, airline, trucking, and electricity deregulation, the Clean Air
19 Act, Superfund, and the Telecommunications Reform Act of 1996; and

20 WHEREAS, elected as a Democrat, Mr. Tauzin switched to the Republican Party in 1995
21 and was named Deputy Majority Whip in 1995, making him the first congressman to have
22 been part of the leadership of both major parties in the United States House of
23 Representatives; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2004, after 13 memorable terms in office and a bout with cancer, Mr. Tauzin
2 announced that he would not seek reelection, thus putting an end to an illustrious career in
3 public office; and

4 WHEREAS, today, Mr. Tauzin serves as president and chief executive officer of the
5 Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, where he diligently works to
6 promote the vital biopharmaceutical research that is needed to ensure that all Americans will
7 continue to have access to the life-saving miracles of medicine; and

8 WHEREAS, as a faithful servant to his state and nation and as a tireless advocate for
9 improved health care, Mr. Tauzin has contributed immeasurably to America's progress and
10 prosperity, and it is abundantly fitting and proper for this body to pay tribute to the
11 outstanding work of this extraordinary gentleman.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
13 join in commending Mr. Billy Tauzin on his lifetime of exceptional service to the American
14 public.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
16 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. Billy Tauzin.