

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 185

BY REPRESENTATIVE FOIL

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Dr. William Hansel, posthumously, for his many contributions

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend World War II American war hero and scientific researcher Dr. William Hansel
3 posthumously.

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Hansel was born September 16, 1918, in Vale Summit, Maryland,
5 was a graduate of the University of Maryland, and earned his Master of Science and Ph.D.
6 degrees from Cornell University; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Hansel served in World War II with great distinction with General
8 George Patton's Ghost Corps during the Battle of the Bulge and was awarded two Purple
9 Hearts for his heroism; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1949, Dr. Hansel joined the faculty of Cornell University and after
11 years of service, served as Chair of the Department of Physiology and the distinguished
12 Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor of Animal Physiology before retiring; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Hansel left Cornell University after four decades on its faculty, and
14 in 1990, he joined Louisiana State University as the Gordon Cain Professor where he
15 continued his research in reproductive biology; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Hansel in 1994 became one of the first scientists at the then-new
17 Pennington Biomedical Research Center; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1995 his wife, Milbrey, who predeceased him in 1997, was diagnosed
19 with ovarian cancer, prompting Dr. Hansel to immediately begin applying his research
20 expertise to finding a new treatment for cancer; and

1 WHEREAS, over the next several decades, Dr. Hansel and his laboratory worked to
2 develop a new class of cancer drugs to target and destroy primary cancer tumors as well as
3 the sites to which it spread; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Hansel is the originator and co-inventor of Cationic Lytic Peptide
5 Technology, a new class of cancer drugs that target and destroy human breast, ovarian,
6 prostate, and testicular cancer cells currently being tested in clinical trials at MD Anderson
7 Cancer Center; and

8 WHEREAS, during his long and storied academic career, Dr. Hansel received many
9 awards including the 2014 Renowned Physiologist accolade from the American Physiology
10 Society; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Hansel was not only a superior research scientist, who published
12 more than 300 scientific articles, he also was a noted teacher who mentored more than 100
13 pre and postdoctoral students; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Hansel's passion for his work was demonstrated daily to his many
15 colleagues at Pennington Biomedical Research Center where he continued to maintain office
16 hours as recently as December 2016; and

17 WHEREAS, on January 2, 2017, at the age of 98, Dr. Hansel passed away, but the
18 legacy of his public service through scientific contributions will continue to make a
19 difference in the lives of individuals with cancer and other chronic diseases in perpetuity;

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
21 Louisiana Legislature expresses its sincerest gratitude to Dr. William Hansel for his great
22 service to America through his military heroism, for his invaluable contributions to
23 Pennington Biomedical's research and training programs, and for his life of dedication to
24 public service through biomedical research.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
26 to Dr. Hansel's successors.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 185 Original

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To commend Dr. William Hansel for his extensive scientific contributions to biomedical research.