

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 79

BY SENATOR BISHOP

COMMENDATIONS. Commends former State Senator Donald R. Cravins Jr. on being inducted into the Southern University Law Center Hall of Fame.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and congratulate former State Senator Donald "Don" R. Cravins Jr. on his  
3 many accomplishments and on being inducted into the Southern University Law  
4 Center Hall of Fame.

5 WHEREAS, on April 7, 2018, Donald R. Cravins Jr. will be inducted into the  
6 Southern University Law Center Hall of Fame; and

7 WHEREAS, the Southern University Law Center Hall of Fame honors individuals  
8 from over four thousand alumni for their hard work, career distinctions, and contributions  
9 to their communities, state, and nation; and

10 WHEREAS, Donald R. Cravins Jr. serves as the National Urban League's senior vice  
11 president for policy and executive director of the Washington Bureau and leads the  
12 development of the National Urban League's policy, research, and advocacy agenda, while  
13 expanding the organization's impact and influence inside the Capital Beltway; and

14 WHEREAS, since 1998, he has been a practicing attorney and a member of the  
15 Louisiana Bar Association; in 2004, he was elected to the Louisiana House of  
16 Representatives and, at that time, he and his father, State Senator Don Cravins Sr., made  
17 Louisiana history by becoming the first and only father and son to serve in the Louisiana  
18 Legislature at the same time; and

1           WHEREAS, in 2006, Cravins was elected to the Louisiana Senate for the seat  
2 vacated by his father, and, during his Senate tenure, he was heavily involved in  
3 post-Hurricane Katrina issues as the chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee and was  
4 an active member of the Juvenile Justice Commission of Louisiana; and

5           WHEREAS, in January of 2009, Don Cravins Jr. left the Louisiana Legislature to  
6 serve as staff director and chief counsel for the United States Senate Committee on Small  
7 Business and Entrepreneurship where he oversaw the legislative activities of the committee;  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, in January of 2013, he began serving as chief of staff for U.S. Senator  
10 Mary L. Landrieu of Louisiana; and

11           WHEREAS, in addition to his duties at the National Urban League, Don Cravins Jr.  
12 is an adjunct professor at George Washington University where he teaches Prosecution and  
13 Litigation in Intellectual Property and Constitutional Law; and

14           WHEREAS, he also serves as a captain in the District of Columbia Army National  
15 Guard Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps with the 352nd Legal Operations Detachment;  
16 and

17           WHEREAS, he is a native of Southwest Louisiana and a graduate of Teurlings  
18 Catholic High and Louisiana State University where he received a bachelor's degree in  
19 political science; he attended Southern University Law Center where he graduated with  
20 honors; and he was presented the Southern University Law Center Distinguished Alumni  
21 Award in 2015 and named a 2015 LSU Legend by the LSU Black Alumni Chapter; and

22           WHEREAS, Don Cravins Jr. attended the Louisiana Youth Seminar (LYS) in 1988  
23 and 1989 and served as a counselor from 1990-1994; he was an assistant program director  
24 in 1995 and served as program director in 1996 and 1997; Don has also been named to the  
25 LYS Hall of Fame and serves as a member of the LYS Advisory Board; and

26           WHEREAS, he is married to Attorney Yvette Puckett Cravins, and they have three  
27 children, Dominique Claire, Trey, and Chloe Denise; Yvette serves as the chief of staff for  
28 Congressman William Lacy Clay Jr. of Missouri; and Cravins and his family reside in  
29 Opelousas, Louisiana, and in Washington, D.C.; and

30           WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities,

