

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 44

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUPLESSIS

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Dr. Melinda Sothern, the Scientists for Translational Research in Youth research group, and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, School of Public Health

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Dr. Melinda Sothern, the Scientists for Translational Research in Youth
3 research group, and the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, New
4 Orleans, School of Public Health for outreach, education, and research related to
5 fighting obesity in adolescent, infant, and adult populations throughout Louisiana.

6 WHEREAS, the Louisiana State University (LSU) Health Sciences Center, New
7 Orleans, School of Public Health, established in 2003, provides a multitude of public health-
8 related services to the population of Louisiana, including education, community outreach,
9 collaboration, and research; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Melinda Sothern, professor and Jim Finks Endowed Chair in Health
11 Promotion at the LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, School of Public Health has
12 devoted the last three decades of her professional career to advancing research into the
13 causes, patterns, and behaviors associated with obesity, particularly childhood obesity; and

14 WHEREAS, Louisiana currently ranks fourth in highest prevalence of childhood
15 obesity and sixth in prevalence of adult obesity; obesity is considered a chronic disease that
16 is associated with reduced duration and quality of life, poor mental health, increased
17 healthcare costs, loss of productivity, and increased risk for several leading causes of death,
18 including diabetes, heart disease, stroke, and some types of cancer; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Sothern, the Scientists for Translational Research in Youth
20 (STORY) research group, and the School of Public Health work collaboratively on multiple

1 programs that help to better understand the social determinates of obesity while also
2 providing outreach activities to help reduce the obesity rate throughout Louisiana; these
3 programs, studies, and outreach activities include the Healthy Together Family Nutrition and
4 Exercise Program, Molecular and Social Determinants of Obesity and Metabolic Disorders
5 in Developing Youth, and the Handbook of Pediatric Obesity: Clinical Management; and

6 WHEREAS, Dr. Sothern's activities have had direct results in improving the health
7 of Louisiana's population through nutrition education and counseling, family cooking classes
8 and instruction, exercise and fitness classes sponsored by LSU Health Sciences Center, New
9 Orleans, and a greater understanding of the causes and risk elements associated with obesity.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
11 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Melinda Sothern, the STORY research
12 group, and the LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans, School of Public Health for
13 outreach, education, and research related to fighting obesity in adolescent, infant, and adult
14 populations throughout Louisiana.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
16 to Dr. Larry Hollier, chancellor of LSU Health Sciences Center, New Orleans.

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 44 Original

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Duplessis

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