

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 149

BY SENATOR BOUIE

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Dr. Stephen C. McGuire for his selection as a 2022 Louisiana Legends honoree by Friends of Louisiana Public Broadcasting (LPB).

WHEREAS, Friends of LPB has honored Louisiana's best and brightest as Louisiana Legends for more than thirty years; and

WHEREAS, the 2022 honorees have a unique distinction as Dr. Stephen C. McGuire and his wife Dr. Sandra Yancy McGuire were the first married couple to be honored for their individual accomplishments in Science at the Friends of LPB awards gala and auction held on April 28, 2022, at Louisiana's Old State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, as a high school student at Joseph S. Clark Senior High in New Orleans, McGuire knew that he wanted to pursue a career in physics; on a four-year academic scholarship, McGuire attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, pursuing that goal and graduating in 1970 with a B.S. in physics, *magna cum laude*; McGuire then received his M.S. degree in nuclear physics in 1974 from the University of Rochester, and obtained his PhD from Cornell University in nuclear science with a focus on low energy neutron physics; and

WHEREAS, while on the faculty at Alabama A&M University, Dr. McGuire began research with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was later honored by NASA with its Office of Technology Utilization Research Citation Award; and

WHEREAS, in 1989, Dr. McGuire became the first African-American faculty member at the endowed College of Engineering at Cornell University; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Dr. McGuire was a charter fellow of the National Society of Black Physicists; and

WHEREAS, from 1999 to 2008, Dr. McGuire has served as professor and chair of the department of physics at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, while also pursuing his interest in optical materials as part of the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO), leading to the establishment of the partnership between LIGO and Southern University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Stephen McGuire is currently a James and Ruth Smith Endowed Emeritus Professor of Physics at Southern University and A&M College and is Southern University's Principal Investigator (PI) to the LIGO Scientific Collaboration that was awarded the 2017 Nobel Prize in Physics; and considers serving as Southern University's PI to the collaboration his greatest achievement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Dr. Stephen C. McGuire on his selection as a 2022 Louisiana Legends honoree by Friends of LPB and does hereby express the sense of honor and pride that he and his accomplishments bring to his family, friends, Southern University, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Stephen C. McGuire.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE