2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 81

### BY REPRESENTATIVE WHEAT

# COMMENDATIONS: Commends Dr. John L. Crain on the occasion of his retirement as president of Southeastern Louisiana University

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To commend Dr. John L. Crain on the occasion of his retirement as president of
3	Southeastern Louisiana University.
4	WHEREAS, on February 17, 2009, the Board of Supervisors for the University of
5	Louisiana System appointed Dr. John L. Crain the fourteenth president of Southeastern
6	Louisiana University (SLU), and at the end of the 2022-2023 academic year, Dr. Crain will
7	retire from the university as one of its longest serving and most successful presidents; and
8	WHEREAS, Dr. Crain was very much a Southeastern insider when he was appointed
9	as president, having received his bachelor's degree (accounting, 1981) and his master of
10	business administration (1984) from SLU and spent his academic career there; prior to
11	becoming president, Dr. Crain served as a member of the accounting faculty, director of the
12	Small Business Development Center, and provost and vice president for academic affairs;
13	and
14	WHEREAS, Dr. Crain's exemplary academic accomplishments include authoring
15	more that fifty refereed journal articles, receiving the President's Award for Excellence in
16	Research, which is the university's highest faculty award, and service on the Louisiana Blue
17	Ribbon Commission on Educational Excellence and the Board of Regents Master Plan
18	National Advisory Panel Workgroup on Retention and Completion; and
19	WHEREAS, Dr. Crain's tenure as president was no doubt marked by numerous daily
20	challenges of types that would be faced by the head of any large institution, but in his
21	fourteen years at the helm, he also had to manage the university's response to crises that no

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1 one could have foreseen, including several years of sizable state budget reductions stemming 2 in part from a major national economic crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic, and Hurricane Ida, 3 which passed directly over the campus and did substantial damage to the Hammond campus; 4 and 5 WHEREAS, throughout it all, Dr. Crain did more than simply keeping the university 6 afloat; he managed to oversee major facility improvements, including completion of the new 7 student union and new residential facilities, the launch of several new academic programs 8 and new academic support and campus life initiatives, some unprecedented successes in 9 Lion athletics, and significant expansion of the Southeastern Foundation; and 10 WHEREAS, nothing is more important to the health and happiness of the citizens of 11 the great state of Louisiana than individuals who invest their considerable personal talent in 12 the service of the public good; Dr. John Crain has spent his professional career, including 13 his tenure as president of Southeastern Louisiana University, making just that investment, 14 and it is appropriate that the state should take this opportunity to recognize and honor him. 15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the 16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. John L. Crain on the occasion of his 17 retirement as president of Southeastern Louisiana University; does hereby record for 18 posterity some of his notable accomplishments and honorable service to the state; and does 19 hereby express its sincerest hope that he continue to find success and fulfillment in the next 20 chapter of his life.

## 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 81 Original

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