#### 2024 Regular Session

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 121

# BY REPRESENTATIVES TARVER, BOURRIAQUE, CARRIER, WILFORD CARTER, FARNUM, GEYMANN, OWEN, AND ROMERO AND SENATORS ABRAHAM, REESE, AND STINE

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Dr. Daryl V. Burckel on the occasion of his retirement as president of McNeese State University

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To commend Dr. Daryl V. Burckel on the occasion of his retirement as president of
3	McNeese State University.
4	WHEREAS, Daryl V. Burckel attended McNeese State University on a football
5	scholarship; as the starting middle linebacker, he led the Cowboys to two Southland
6	Conference championships and an appearance in the Independence Bowl; he was also
7	recognized as the 1980 All-Southland Conference Defensive Most Valuable Player, and he
8	received the Spirit of Independence Award following the bowl game; and
9	WHEREAS, Daryl was a gifted scholar, and he earned one of four national NCAA
10	postgraduate academic scholarships; he graduated from McNeese with a bachelor's degree
11	in accounting in 1980 and a master's degree in business administration in 1982; he then
12	began his pursuit of a doctorate in accounting at Mississippi State University and graduated
13	in 1986; and
14	WHEREAS, after completing his education, Dr. Burckel held faculty positions at
15	McNeese State University, the University of New Orleans, and Mississippi State University;
16	he returned to McNeese as a full-time faculty member in 1992 and became a professor of
17	accounting and served as head of the McNeese Department of Accounting, Finance, and
18	Economics; he also held the Arthur Hollins III Endowed Professorship of Accounting for
19	many years; and

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1 WHEREAS, Dr. Burckel has served as the seventh president of McNeese State 2 University since July 1, 2017; as president, he set priorities and implemented initiatives to 3 create a student-centric campus culture; he led the university through a tumultuous fourteen-4 month period that included the COVID-19 pandemic, Hurricane Laura, Hurricane Delta, a 5 severe winter storm, and a historically destructive flood; and 6 WHEREAS, under Dr. Burckel's leadership, the university reinforced its commitment to academic excellence and student success by streamlining the enrollment process, creating 7 8 seamless pathways for transfer students, reinstating the Division of Student Affairs, reducing 9 textbook costs, establishing a doctoral program in the College of Nursing and Health 10 Professions, creating the Student Success Center, and forming the first science, engineering, 11 and mathematics college in the state; and 12 WHEREAS, Dr. Burckel is very civically engaged; he has served as president and 13 director of the Lake Charles Harbor and Terminal District Board, chairman of the board of 14 directors for CHRISTUS St. Patrick Hospital, and chairman of the Southland Conference 15 President's Group; he served on the board of directors for the Louisiana Housing 16 Corporation, the Louisiana Land Trust, and Council for a Better Louisiana, and he currently 17 sits on the board of directors for JD Bank; and 18 WHEREAS, Dr. Burckel is a veteran of Desert Storm and has achieved the rank of 19 captain in the United States Army Reserves; and 20 WHEREAS, Dr. Daryl V. Burckel is a truly incredible individual whose many 21 achievements warrant the highest measures of recognition. 22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 23 commend Dr. Daryl V. Burckel on the occasion of his retirement from McNeese State 24 University as its president; does hereby extend enduring appreciation to him for his service 25 to McNeese State University, the state of Louisiana, and the United States; and does hereby 26 extend sincerest wishes that he continue to prosper in all of his endeavors.

# 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)]

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Tarver

Commends Dr. Daryl Burckel on the occasion of his retirement from McNeese State University.