SLS 13RS-873 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2013

1

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 43

BY SENATOR BROOME

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Huel D. Perkins, PhD, an outstanding administrator of higher education for both Southern University and Louisiana State University.

A RESOLUTION

2	To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of
3	Louisiana upon the passing of a distinguished educator, administrator, community
4	leader, and humanitarian, Dr. Huel D. Perkins of Baton Rouge.
5	WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and sadness that the Senate of the Legislature of
6	Louisiana has learned of the passing of Huel Davis Perkins on April 15, 2013, at age
7	eighty-eight; and
8	WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins shall be commended and remembered for a lifetime of
9	unselfish contributions made on behalf of public education in the state of Louisiana; and
10	WHEREAS, he believed that education and preparation could overcome any barrier
11	in life and he set a daily example of that truth, graduating with highest honors from Southern
12	University in 1947 with a degree in music and earning both master's and PhD degrees from
13	Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois; and
14	WHEREAS, besides his academic distinctions Huel Perkins was a true son of
15	Southern; he pledged both Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity
16	(Boule'), where he became the Grand Sire Archon and served as national president; and
17	WHEREAS, his service at Southern University and Agricultural and Mechanical
18	College included a position as Director of Music for eight years where he composed

1	Southern's Fight Song in 1951 and also served as Dean of the College of Arts and
2	Humanities from 1968 to 1978; and
3	WHEREAS, at Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College,
4	he served as Professor of Humanities, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and
5	Executive Assistant to the Chancellor; and
6	WHEREAS, in 1988 he was appointed to the State Board of Elementary and
7	Secondary Education by Governor Buddy Roemer and named to the board of advisers of the
8	J. W. Fulbright Scholarship program in 1996 by then President Bill Clinton; and
9	WHEREAS, in 2005, LSU awarded him an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters
10	and created a fellowship program that bears his name to assist students in their personal
11	quest to achieve their greatest potential; and
12	WHEREAS, born on December 27, 1924, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Dr. Perkins
13	spent his entire career in the service of others as a professor and an administrator in higher
14	education; and
15	WHEREAS, during his lifetime he earned numerous humanitarian awards and served
16	on many nonprofit boards, including the Capital Area United Way, Baton Rouge Symphony,
17	Louisiana Public Broadcasting, and the New Orleans Museum of Art; and
18	WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of sixty-four years, Thelma Smith Perkins;
19	his son Huel Alfred Perkins; his grandsons Huel Jared Perkins and Vincent Frederick
20	Perkins; and a host of extended family and loving friends; and
21	WHEREAS, Dr. Huel Davis Perkins was a loving husband, father, and grandfather;
22	a dedicated professor, administrator, speaker, and composer; a veteran of the United States
23	Navy; a "true son of Southern" and a gentleman of quick wit with a warm sense of humor;
24	he shared his knowledge with others; and he was a man of integrity who tried to see the best
25	in everyone he met.
26	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
27	does hereby extend its most sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Huel D. Perkins on the
28	occasion of his passing.
29	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Dr. Huel D. Perkins shall be remembered as a
30	man whose dedication to scholarship has been a priceless gift to the state of Louisiana.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his

wife, Mrs. Thelma Perkins.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Susan P. Montague.

DIGEST

Broome SR No. 43

Expresses condolences upon the death of Dr. Huel D. Perkins, former educator and collegiate administrator.