

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 112

BY SENATOR BROOME

COMMENDATIONS. Recognizes and commends Dr. Rama Mohanty for his lifetime achievements and commitment to promoting world peace.

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To recognize and commend Dr. Rama Mohanty on a lifetime of achievements and for his
3 commitment to promoting world peace.

4 WHEREAS, as a young boy in India, Rama Mohanty obtained funding to attend high
5 school by winning a debate on the topic of freedom and then, with the assistance of a
6 scholarship, was able to go to college at Utkal University in Odisha, while tutoring high
7 school students to pay for room and board, ending up the top graduate in his class; and

8 WHEREAS, he received a scholarship for his academic excellence and obtained a
9 masters degree at Ranchi College finishing at the top of his class and was awarded a
10 scholarship to attend Penn State University in physics where three years later, he obtained
11 a PhD, the youngest student in his class; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Rama Mohanty was recruited by Benjamin Mayo of Morehouse
13 College in Atlanta to serve as professor and chair of the Physics Department there; and

14 WHEREAS, while at Morehouse, Dr. Mohanty became acquainted with Dr. Martin
15 Luther King and learned that they both followed the teachings of Mahatma Gandhi; and

16 WHEREAS, he later served at the University of California at Berkeley in the 1960s,
17 then as Chairman of Physics at New York State University; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Mohanty moved to Louisiana in 1976 and has served as a professor

1 in the Department of Physics at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge and
2 a physics instructor at Louisiana State University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, until
3 his retirement in 2010; and

4 WHEREAS, he is the head of the Louisiana University of Medical Sciences
5 organized to eliminate the current shortage of primary care medicine providers in certain
6 areas of the state by proposing an LCME accredited school of medicine to train qualified
7 students who demonstrate dedicated interest in practicing primary care medicine in an area
8 of need; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Mohanty established the Institute of All Nations for Advanced
10 Studies, Inc., in 1964 which began under the co-chairmanship of former United States
11 Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg and former United Nations Ambassador Arthur S.
12 Lall and in which he serves as General Secretary; and

13 WHEREAS, he was moved to form the institute by the brutal murder of thousands
14 of innocent people, including children and women, as a result of religious and communal
15 rioting in his native India, which he witnessed as a high school student and which convinced
16 him that the promotion of inner peace within each individual is vital to the establishment of
17 meaningful world peace; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1998, the institute adopted a resolution designating October 1
19 annually as World Peace Day; and

20 WHEREAS, Dr. Mohanty is the founder and member of the Louisiana World Peace
21 Day Committee which has sponsored World Peace Day activities since 1998, the purpose
22 of which, as stated by Dr. Mohanty is "to create in the minds of people in Louisiana, and
23 around the world, love and respect for one another"; and

24 WHEREAS, Dr. Rama Mohanty is a very unique individual, a man of genuine
25 intellect and high integrity with a genuine compassion for humankind and an unrelenting
26 drive for the cause of world peace; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. Rama Mohanty, for his efforts, was nominated for the Nobel Peace
28 Prize.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
30 recognize and commend Dr. Rama Mohanty for his lifetime achievements and his

1 commitment to promoting world peace for the betterment of humankind.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that best wishes are hereby extended for a full
3 recovery and a long life.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr.
5 Rama Mohanty.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST

Broome

SCR No. 112

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commitment to promoting world peace for the betterment of humankind.