

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 127

BY SENATOR CHABERT

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Frank Adams Riddick Jr. upon his impending retirement as president of the South Louisiana Medical Associates Board of Directors and congratulate him for his lifetime of service to the medical community and the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Dr. Frank Riddick holds his undergraduate and medical degrees from Vanderbilt University, where he was a member of Kappa Sigma fraternity, Phi Chi medical fraternity, and elected to Phi Beta Kappa and to Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Riddick furthered his medical education in internal medicine and endocrinology at the Barnes Hospital-Washington University Complex in St. Louis, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, he also attended the Program in Health Systems Management at the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Riddick spent his entire career as both a doctor and administrator in Ochsner Health System affiliated institutions, and held positions as head of the Section of Endocrinology and Metabolic Diseases, medical director and chief executive officer of the Ochsner Clinic, chief executive officer of the Alton Ochsner Medical Foundation, and chief executive officer emeritus of the Ochsner Health System; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Riddick's twenty-six years of leadership with Ochsner institutions, the professional staff quintupled in size to over five hundred physicians, and the health maintenance organization now has two hundred twenty-five thousand subscribers; and

WHEREAS, nationally, Dr. Riddick has served as past president of the American College of Physician Executives, the American Group Practice Association, and the Society of Medical Administrators, and chair of the American Medical Association's Council on Medical Education and Council on Judicial and Ethical Affairs, while also obtaining the distinction of Master of the American College of Physicians, the American College of Endocrinology, as well as being designated a Distinguished Fellow of the American College of Physician Executives; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Riddick has also served his community as a professor of clinical medicine at the Tulane University School of Medicine; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Riddick served his country with active duty in the United States Army Medical Corps from 1955 through 1957 with the rank of captain and continued to serve in the United States Army Reserves until 1963, achieving the rank of major; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Riddick has served his faith community as a Vestryman of Trinity Episcopal Church in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Riddick is the beloved husband of Mary Belle Alston Riddick, as well as a beloved and revered father and grandfather; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as the medical director and chief executive officer of the Ochsner Clinic, then-state representative and later state senator Leonard J. Chabert approached Dr. Riddick about the possibility of having Ochsner staff the South Louisiana Medical Center charity hospital then under construction in Houma, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Riddick saw this opportunity as mutually beneficial to Ochsner and its physician group, the Bayou Region, its indigent and working poor of the area, and agreed to staff the hospital; and

WHEREAS, in response to this calling, Dr. Riddick formed the South Louisiana Medical Associates, an Ochsner-affiliated physician group to service the hospital; and

WHEREAS, the bond between Senator Chabert and Dr. Riddick was instrumental in the launch of this new charity hospital and its unique public-private management structure; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Dr. Riddick, the South Louisiana Medical Center, now known as the Leonard J. Chabert Memorial Hospital, was one of the only charity hospitals in the state to generate significant patient revenue; and

WHEREAS, the visionary model of a public-private partnership with significant patient revenue instituted by Dr. Riddick for this hospital served as a guiding light for other charity hospitals to emulate even to this day; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his title of chief executive officer emeritus of the Ochsner Health System, Dr. Riddick is still actively serving as the president of the South Louisiana Medical Association's board of directors; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Riddick has recently announced his plans to retire from service.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Frank Adams Riddick Jr. upon his impending retirement as president of the South Louisiana Medical Associates Board of Directors and congratulate him for his lifetime of service to the medical community and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Frank Adams Riddick Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE