

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 161

BY SENATOR MURRAY

A RESOLUTION

To commend Ronald Mason Jr., President of the Southern University and A&M College System, for his outstanding accomplishments, his years of public service, and his singular contributions to postsecondary education.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to commend Ronald Mason as president of the Southern University system, a position in which he has served with great honor and distinction since 2010, providing oversight for all five campuses in the system; and

WHEREAS, President Mason brings nearly thirty-five years of experience in the areas of higher education management, astute legal representation, public policy, community development coordination, and urban renewal; and

WHEREAS, a native son of Louisiana, Ronald Mason holds impeccable academic credentials that include graduation from Jesuit High School in New Orleans, a bachelor of arts degree from Columbia University, a juris doctorate from Columbia Law School, and an advanced degree from the Institute of Educational Management at Harvard University; and

WHEREAS, at Tulane University, Mason served for seventeen years in a variety of administrative positions including legal advisor, senior vice president, and vice president in charge of finance and operations; this skill set provided the springboard to his illustrious career of leadership in higher education; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Mason has been the recipient of prestigious awards that include the Mayor's Medal of Honor from the city of New Orleans, the Martin Luther King Lifetime Achievement Award from Dillard, Loyola, Tulane, and Xavier universities, and the Columbia University John Jay Award for distinguished professional achievement; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of civic organizations in New Orleans such as the Fellowship Foundation, the Metropolitan Area Committee, the Southern Development Foundation, the New Orleans Jobs Initiative, and the Southern Institute for Education and Research; and

WHEREAS, previous to his administrative duties at Southern University, Mason served as president of Jackson State University in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Mason served the state with great distinction, unquestionably improving all aspects of Southern University and as an engaging educator and administrator most certainly will provide remarkable leadership and talent as he takes his place at his next position as President of the University of the District of Columbia later this year; and

WHEREAS, Ronald Mason merits the highest commendation for the indelible mark he leaves on Southern University, the Southern University system, and on countless students, faculty, and staff.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Ronald Mason Jr., President of the Southern University and A&M College system for his outstanding accomplishments, his years of service, and his singular contributions to the betterment of postsecondary education as a whole.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby congratulate Mr. Mason and convey best wishes for continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ronald Mason, President of Southern University and A&M College System.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE