

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 103

BY SENATORS CARTER, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, COLOMB, MORRELL, PRICE AND TARVER AND REPRESENTATIVES BOUIE, BRASS, CARPENTER, GARY CARTER, COX, DUPLESSIS, GLOVER, HALL, JIMMY HARRIS, HUNTER, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, MARCELLE, DUSTIN MILLER, NORTON, PIERRE AND SMITH

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Erika McConduit for her accomplishments and dedicated service as president and CEO of the Urban League of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Erika McConduit, president and CEO of the Urban League of Louisiana, has announced her resignation from the position effective July 2018, to explore other career opportunities; and

WHEREAS, as president and CEO of the Urban League of Louisiana, she oversaw agency operations, strategic planning, partnership development, contract management, and policy initiatives of the agency, whose mission is to empower communities and change lives; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to ensuring economic equity, McConduit worked deeply in workforce and economic development, and served as a member of Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards' economic development transition team; and

WHEREAS, she was also heavily engaged in education, providing direct service and advocacy in quality early learning, K-12, and postsecondary opportunities, was appointed to the Board of Supervisors for the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, and served on numerous committees including Mayor Landrieu's Education Task Force, Louisiana State Superintendent of Education John White's Student Task Force as cochair, and the Recovery School District's Charter Application Task Force; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McConduit also served as cochair of the National Urban League's Education Task Force; and

WHEREAS, due to her unyielding commitment to racial equality, she was selected as the delegate for the northeast region of YWCAs at the World Council meeting in Kenya, Africa, and has served as a National Urban League delegate on a friendship mission to China; and

WHEREAS, a pioneering and committed civic leader, McConduit's service extended to serving on the governing boards of the New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute, The New Orleans Advocate, New Schools New Orleans, NOCCA Institute, KID smART, the New Orleans Kids Partnership as vice chair, African American Women of Purpose and Power as vice chair, Orleans Public Education Network, the New Orleans Crime Coalition, the Opportunity Youth Coalition, United Way's Women's Leadership Council, the EMPLOY Collaborative Leadership Team, and she is a member of the Crescent City Chapter of Links, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, an avid supporter of professional and leadership development, McConduit has completed the National Urban League's Emerging Leader Institute, New Orleans Regional Leadership Institute, Bryan Bell Metropolitan Leadership Forum, and the Norman C. Francis Leadership Institute; and

WHEREAS, Erika McConduit, a mother of three children, a New Orleans native, and a Louisiana licensed attorney graduated summa cum laude from Howard University and cum laude from Loyola University School of Law in New Orleans, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, she worked for the Urban League of Louisiana for nearly a decade, first serving as vice president of programs and subsequently as executive vice president before being named president and CEO in 2013, the second woman to serve in this role in the affiliate's eighty-year history; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure as president and CEO, Erika McConduit achieved incredible outcomes, most notably including expanding the organization from serving the Greater New Orleans area to a statewide entity, with a satellite office in Baton Rouge, and space agreements in surrounding parishes in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, she also oversaw the purchase of a new 26,000 sq. ft. headquarters building in the mid-city area of New Orleans, which also provides office and meeting space for small businesses, nonprofits, and the community at large; and

WHEREAS, under McConduit's leadership, the organization responded to crises including flood recovery by providing over \$3.5 million in clothing and household goods to impacted families in the Greater Baton Rouge area, and hosted a landmark conference to commemorate the 10-year anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, releasing a research publication

examining the State of Black New Orleans Ten Years Post-Katrina; and

WHEREAS, the Urban League touches the lives of over 10,000 Louisianians each year through direct service programs in early childhood education, parent engagement, college and career readiness, workforce development, economic inclusion, and civic engagement, and during Erika McConduit's service as president and CEO, countless members of the community were impacted in each of ULLA's direct service areas, which had a direct and sustainable impact on the region at large as her tenacious policy and advocacy efforts helped to transform systems at both the local and state level; and

WHEREAS, she merits the highest commendation for her exemplary service and for her outstanding contributions to the state of Louisiana and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depends, in great measure, upon the dedication of people like Erika McConduit who use their considerable talents to empower our communities and improve the quality of life of this state's citizens.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Erika McConduit for her accomplishments and dedicated service as president and CEO of the Urban League of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Erika McConduit.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES