

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 64

BY REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERSON

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Dillard University on its one hundred fiftieth anniversary

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Dillard University upon the occasion of its one hundred fiftieth anniversary.

3 WHEREAS, the roots of Dillard University were planted in 1869 when philanthropist
4 Seymour Straight was assisted by an abolitionist group, American Missionary Association
5 of the Congregational Church, to found Straight University, one of the first African
6 American universities in Louisiana; in 2017, the Preservation Resource Center completed
7 a renovation of the only remaining edifice of Straight University, which had been built
8 between 1866 and 1871 and served as a boarding house and dining hall; and

9 WHEREAS, New Orleans University was founded in 1872 by the Methodist
10 Episcopal church; by the early 20th century, New Orleans University and Straight University
11 were beset by insufficient funds, and the administrations of both universities desired to
12 locate closer to the city's black population; and

13 WHEREAS, the cornerstone of the campus of the combined universities was laid on
14 May 27, 1934, on Gentilly Boulevard, and Dillard University opened for enrollment on
15 September 24, 1935; the architect for the campus, Moise Goldstein, designed the stately
16 main buildings in a classical revival style; its gleaming white buildings are highlighted by
17 formal and ornate landscaping; and

18 WHEREAS, Dillard University was called "one of the country's most beautiful and
19 serene campuses" by Donna Fricker in a 2003 article in *Preservation in Print* magazine and
20 the university was added to the National Register of Historic Places on April 10, 2003; in
21 the nomination, Dillard's statewide significance in the areas of education and African

1 American heritage were cited, and the formal architecture and landscape design of its
2 campus were praised; and

3 WHEREAS, Dillard University is a source of pride in the higher education
4 community of New Orleans, and it is fitting to recognize the one hundred fiftieth anniversary
5 of an institution that has impacted the lives of all who pass through its portals.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
7 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the administration, staff, and students upon
8 the one hundred fiftieth anniversary celebration of Dillard University and does hereby extend
9 best wishes for continued success.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
11 to Dillard University president, Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 64 Original

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Jefferson

Commends Dillard University on its 150th anniversary.