

2019 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 147

BY SENATOR ALARIO

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Senator Conrad Appel for his years of distinguished public service to the Louisiana Senate.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize and highly commend Senator Conrad Appel for his years of dedicated and
3 distinguished service to the Senate of Louisiana, the people of the parishes of
4 Jefferson and Orleans (District 9), and the state of Louisiana.

5 WHEREAS, Conrad Appel received a degree in electrical engineering from
6 Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, in 1973; and

7 WHEREAS, while Senator Appel has numerous business endeavors, his primary
8 focus is serving as president of Construction South, Inc., a family business that specializes
9 in industrial and commercial general construction projects; and

10 WHEREAS, Conrad Appel has long been involved in promoting local and regional
11 economic development initiatives, he also supports a variety of civic and philanthropic
12 activities; and

13 WHEREAS, when the District 9 Senate seat became vacant, Conrad Appel, with the
14 support of his wife Carol and his children, Connor and Whitney, decided to take a leap of
15 faith and run for office, knowing that to be in a position to make a difference, you have to
16 have a seat at the table; and

17 WHEREAS, Senator Appel was first elected in 2008 in a special election to fill the
18 mostly unexpired term of his predecessor, and was easily reelected for a second and third

1 term of office; and

2 WHEREAS, during his tenure in the Senate, Senator Conrad Appel served with
3 commitment and distinction on many committees including the Senate Committee on
4 Education, serving as chairman from 2012-2016, the Senate Committee on Environmental
5 Quality, serving as vice chairman from 2016-2020, the Senate Committee on Commerce,
6 Consumer Protection, and International Affairs, the Senate Committee on Judiciary A, the
7 Senate Committee on Judiciary C, serving as vice chairman from 2009-2012, the Senate
8 Committee on Retirement, the Senate Select Committee on Vocational-Technical Education,
9 the Senate Committee on Revenue and Fiscal Affairs, the Senate Committee on Finance, the
10 Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, and the Joint Legislative Committee on Capital
11 Outlay; and

12 WHEREAS, while serving as chairman of the Senate Committee on Education,
13 Senator Appel authored major K-12 reform legislation to strengthen the school and district
14 accountability system, revamp the teacher evaluation and tenure process, mandate that
15 teachers and other educational employees be compensated based on performance versus
16 years of service, revise the textbook review and adoption process, and create the Early
17 Childhood Care and Education Network; and

18 WHEREAS, understanding the critical need to provide greatly needed infrastructure
19 to increase the availability and use of technology in public elementary schools, Senator
20 Appel passed legislation establishing the office of instructional technology in the state
21 Department of Education, requiring the establishment of a statewide educational technology
22 plan, submission of an annual school technology report, and creating the Technology
23 Strategy Task Force, which he chaired; and

24 WHEREAS, Senator Appel also authored notable legislation to streamline, reduce
25 duplication of programs, and increase the effectiveness and efficiency of postsecondary
26 education, including the development of a common application for postsecondary
27 institutions, the revision of the master plan for postsecondary education, and development
28 and implementation of an outcomes-based funding formula for postsecondary education; and

29 WHEREAS, understanding that a healthy business climate is essential to a dynamic
30 state economy, Senator Appel authored and supported numerous pieces of legislation to

