A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
To commend the Louisiana Tumor Registry for its contributions to the fight against cancer.

WHEREAS, the primary function of a cancer registry is to monitor the occurrence of cancer in a particular population, and thus to accumulate information that is necessary to fight the disease through research, clinical trials, cancer management, allocation of resources, and ultimately, development of cures; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry, a program in the School of Public Health in the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, ranks among the very best of the nation's cancer registries; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry is one of only eighteen population-based cancer registries in the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results, or SEER, program, which is the authoritative source of information on cancer incidence and survival in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry has earned first-place awards for data quality from the National Cancer Institute's SEER program in the last nine consecutive years; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry has earned a gold certificate for high quality data from the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries each year since 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry was the only cancer registry in the United States to be awarded the cancer research award at the twentieth anniversary meeting of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Program of Cancer Registries; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry is one of four cancer registries in the United States to earn a CDC award to collect data on pre-cancerous lesions of cervical
cancers; one of five registries to earn a CDC award to collect data on cancer recurrence and progression; and one of seven registries to earn a CDC award to implement the Caroline Pryce Walker Conquer Childhood Cancer Act to combat pediatric cancers; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry has brought in more than $3.5 million in federal funds annually to Louisiana for cancer surveillance and research projects, including patterns of care studies and quality of life studies; and

WHEREAS, through the annual drawdown of state and federal funds to regional registries, the Louisiana Tumor Registry has brought $314,687 to the Acadiana region, $537,221 to the Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center, and $542,040 to the University of Louisiana at Monroe each fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry's infrastructure and data support cancer control and research projects that bring more than $8.1 million annually to Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the data accumulated by the Louisiana Tumor Registry is used by the office of public health for cancer cluster investigations in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, data provided by the Louisiana Tumor Registry to researchers, clinicians, cancer registrars, public health officials, legislators, policymakers, community groups, and members of the public help to improve health policy and strengthen the fight against cancer.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Louisiana Tumor Registry, the faculty of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, and the School of Public Health for their significant contributions to collecting, analyzing, and sharing statistics on cancer, which have been so important in fighting this devastating disease at the local, state, and national levels.