

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY SENATOR FIELDS

A RESOLUTION

To designate Wednesday, April 14, 2021, as "University of Louisiana System Day at the Capitol" and to commend the University of Louisiana System for its commitment to create the most educated generation in Louisiana's history.

WHEREAS, the University of Louisiana System (UL System) consists of nine distinct educational institutions namely, Grambling State University, Louisiana Tech University, McNeese State University, Nicholls State University, Northwestern State University, Southeastern Louisiana University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, University of Louisiana at Monroe, and the University of New Orleans, which serves more than 90,000 students; and

WHEREAS, the nine-member institutions displayed their tenacity throughout the past year in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in March 2020, the system universities' world-class faculty and staff completed the Herculean task of transitioning all services, including instruction, to an online format in order to immediately respond to the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, once there was more information about the virus, the universities followed System guidelines that ensured the health and safety of all students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the tumult caused by the pandemic, all nine institutions were impacted by named storms, none more than McNeese State University, during the 2020 hurricane season; and

WHEREAS, the System's universities provided support in the form of campus access, technological assistance, and other services to more than two hundred fifty displaced McNeese State University students through the Cowboy Relief Effort; and

WHEREAS, despite the challenges of the past thirteen months, in 2020, more than 16,500 students graduated from the UL System's nine-member institutions prepared for life and career success.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate Wednesday, April 14, 2021, as "University of Louisiana System Day at the Capitol" and does hereby commend the University of Louisiana System for its commitment to creating the most educated generation in Louisiana's history.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the faculty, staff, and students of the University of Louisiana System, including Grambling State University, Louisiana Tech University, McNeese State University, Nicholls State University, Northwestern State University, Southeastern Louisiana University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, University of Louisiana at Monroe, and University of New Orleans, are hereby commended for their perseverance through the past thirteen months to ensure the fulfillment of each institution's specific mission shaped by its history and unique strengths, and the System's mission to provide high-quality educational opportunities for the people of Louisiana through a lifetime of intellectual growth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to University of Louisiana System President and CEO Dr. Jim Henderson.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE