

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 182

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

To commend K. Scott Wester for his many years of dedicated, faithful service to the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System and the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, K. Scott Wester, Executive Vice-President of Advocacy and Strategic Partnerships, served as Chief Executive Officer of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from March 2008 until February 2022; and

WHEREAS, originally from Cincinnati, Ohio, Scott Wester graduated Magna Cum Laude from Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, with a Bachelor of Arts in Chemistry and a Bachelor of Arts in Classical Humanities; and

WHEREAS, Scott received his Masters of Hospital and Health Administration in 1993 from Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, Scott began his career in health care as an administrative resident at Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center (OLOLRMC); and

WHEREAS, Scott served in the roles of Assistant Administrator, Assistant Vice President - Managed Care, Vice President - Professional Services, and Administrator - Related/Partner Organizations while at OLOLRMC in Baton Rouge before accepting his first Chief Executive Officer (CEO) position at St. Elizabeth Hospital in Gonzales, Louisiana, in 2000; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Scott accepted the position of CEO with St. Francis Medical Center in Monroe, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, Scott came back to Baton Rouge to become the CEO of Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Scott is a Fellow with the American College of Health Care Executives (ACHE) and he is the past chair of the ACHE CEO Council; and

WHEREAS, Scott is a member of the American Hospital Association (AHA) Higher Logic Committee, the AHA Leadership Pool, and formerly served as a member of the

Council of the AHA Section for Metropolitan Hospitals; and

WHEREAS, Scott serves on the board of the Louisiana Hospital Association, recently holding the position of chairman, and currently serves as Louisiana's Delegate for the Region Seven Policy Board of the American Hospital Association; and

WHEREAS, Scott has served as the chair of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce and is an active board member on several community boards; and

WHEREAS, Scott has served on the Catholic Health Association awards and century committee, and is currently a member of the Vizient Gulf States Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Scott has been instrumental in working with the Louisiana Department of Health to increase access to quality health care for all Louisiana residents; and

WHEREAS, Scott was key in creating the framework for the public-private partnership model and was the architect of the first cooperative endeavor agreement between Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, the Louisiana State University School of Medicine, and the state of Louisiana, resulting in the transition of OLOLRMC from a community-based hospital to a nationally recognized major teaching hospital; and

WHEREAS, Scott is responsible for breaking down the two-tier health system in Baton Rouge and ensuring equitable access to health care for all; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Health often sought the guidance and advice of Scott Wester while crafting public health policy; and

WHEREAS, Scott has led Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center, Louisiana's largest medical center, through COVID-19 and over a decade of growth.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize and commend K. Scott Wester for his many years of dedicated and faithful service to the Franciscan Missionaries of Our Lady Health System and the state of Louisiana, and extends best wishes on his journey as Chief Executive Officer of Memorial Healthcare System in Florida.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to K. Scott Wester.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE