

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 173

BY REPRESENTATIVES WILLMOTT, ANDERS, BARROW, BURFORD, COX, HARRIS, HAVARD, HENSGENS, HILL, HOFFMANN, KATRINA JACKSON, LEBAS, JAY MORRIS, POPE, SIMON, STOKES, WHITNEY, AND PATRICK WILLIAMS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Barbara Morvant upon her retirement as executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing and to recognize her unwavering passion, dedication, and contributions to the prosperity of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing as she prepares to pass the torch to new leadership for the future.

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant is a nationally recognized leader in the field of nursing regulation who specializes in the improvement of nursing regulation by continually providing leadership in the refinement of rules, regulations, and processes in the state of Louisiana and through national activities; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant will have served as the executive director for the Louisiana State Board of Nursing, referred to hereafter as the "LSBN", for twenty-five years at the time of her retirement in November 2013; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant was appointed executive director in 1988 when the LSBN was located in New Orleans, Louisiana, and at a time when hundreds of students would travel from multiple areas of Louisiana to the Board of Nursing to take the pencil and paper National Council Licensure Examination; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant holds an uncanny educational background through graduating from the Touro Infirmary School of Nursing in 1970, and graduating from the Louisiana State University Medical Center-School of Nursing with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 1973, where she also acquired her Master of Nursing in 1976 in the field of Adult Health and Delivery of Health Services; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant has attained invaluable work experience which includes the positions of instructor of the baccalaureate program at the Louisiana State University Medical Center-School of Nursing from 1976 to 1978, the assistant director of the Touro

Infirmiry School of Nursing from July 1978 to December 1982, and the executive director of the Louisiana State Nurses Association from 1984 to 1988, which afforded her a vast amount of experience in the areas of administration, health policy, legislative process, and nursing education; and

WHEREAS, the professional affiliations of Mrs. Morvant include the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, of which she has been an active participant since 1988 and has served on a plethora of committees, task forces, and advisory groups such as the board of directors, two terms as treasurer from 1998 to 2002, a member of the finance committee from 1992 to 2002, the Committee on Nominations from 1991 to 1992, of which she was the chairperson in 1992, the Executive Officer Orientation Group in 1998, the Practice & Education Model Revision Subcommittee in 2004, the Governance and Leadership Task Force in 2005 to 2006, the chairperson of the Leadership Succession Committee from 2009 to 2011, the American Nurses Association and its affiliates, and she is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant was highly responsible for establishing such entities and instruments as the recovering Nurse Program under the auspices of the LSBN, establishing the Louisiana Center of Nursing, establishing criminal background analyses for all licensees and student nurses, the reenactment of the Nurse Practice Act to include the licensure of advanced practice registered nurses including prescriptive authority, the reestablishment and purchase of the new LSBN office in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, under the direction of the board following the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and the partnering with the American Association of Retired Persons to establish the Louisiana Action Coalition for the Future of Nursing; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant was the recipient of the R. Louise McManus Award in 2005 in recognition of her invaluable contributions to the improvement of nursing regulations; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant has worked to serve and protect the public while also advancing professional nursing in Louisiana over the past twenty-five years; and

WHEREAS, it was declared by the LSBN president, Dr. Demetrius Porche, that Mrs. Morvant has displayed extraordinary expertise and vision with regard to helping the LSBN to strategically structure the organization for its current and future successes; and

WHEREAS, the future absence of Mrs. Morvant is predicted to be so immense, that the LSBN has initiated the development of a leadership succession plan that includes the launch of a national search beginning in April 2013 to identify a new executive director with the potential to continue her legacy; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant has made tremendous strides in the areas of nursing education, computer adaptive testing, and nursing regulation; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant has further displayed her relentless dedication to the cause of the LSBN by conveying her willingness to be available following her retirement to help with the transition as the board and staff work to continue the efficiency demonstrated under her leadership; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant feels a debt of gratitude for the many individuals with whom she has served including past members of the LSBN Board and staff, the nursing community, and stakeholders at both the regional and national levels; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Morvant plans to continue to be an advocate for the profession of nursing and a loyal servant of the citizens of Louisiana even after her retirement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Barbara Morvant upon her retirement as executive director of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing and does hereby recognize her unwavering passion, dedication, and contributions to the prosperity of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing as she prepares to pass the torch to new leadership for the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend best wishes to Mrs. Barbara Morvant for continued success and happiness in all of her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mrs. Barbara Morvant.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE