

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 171

BY REPRESENTATIVES BARROW AND FOIL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Mr. Willie F. Hawkins for his forty-two years of distinguished service to the citizens of Louisiana and Baton Rouge in the areas of higher education, health care, and social services.

WHEREAS, since 1984, Mr. Hawkins has served in several high level state health care administrative positions, including sixteen years with the Louisiana State University (LSU) System; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, Mr. Hawkins began his public service when he was named the executive director of the Eden Park Community Health Center, and also served as the administrator of East Baton Rouge Parish Health Care Services; and

WHEREAS, early in his professional career, Mr. Hawkins served in several not-for-profit positions in the Baton Rouge community including director of Health and Social Services for Community Advancements, Inc., and director of the Young Adult Offender Program for the Community Corrections and Rehabilitation Center; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins was the recipient of the prestigious Ford Foundation Fellowship Award in 1974; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins was named executive assistant to the vice chancellor at the LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans-Health Care Services Division and chief executive officer of the Medical Center of Louisiana in New Orleans in July 1999; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins served as the executive assistant to the vice chancellor at LSU Health Sciences Center from July 1997 to July 1999; and

WHEREAS, prior to his service with LSU, Mr. Hawkins served as the confidential assistant to the chief executive officer of the Louisiana Health Care Authority from November 1993 to August 1995 and from January 1996 to July 1997; and

WHEREAS, under the Louisiana Health Care Authority, Mr. Hawkins served as the acting administrator of Earl K. Long Medical Center from August 1995 to January 1996, and as an assistant administrator from April 1984 to November 1993; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins graduated from Southern University in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and served as a vista volunteer at the Columbia University School of Social Work from 1966 to 1967; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins is a distinguished veteran of the United States Army having honorably served with the Military Assistance Command in Vietnam; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins retires on July 5, 2013, from LSU as the director of Institutional Relations, a position that he has held since February of 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins can be found on any given day, at any given hour, navigating patients through the often complicated Louisiana health care system; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins not only provided professional administrative leadership in public health care for many years, but also personally ensured that thousands of patients were able to receive medical appointments and emergency treatment regardless of their ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, there is not a single local official of city or state government, a local minister, a city-parish department head, or a local community leader, that Mr. Hawkins does not know on a first-hand basis; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins provided invaluable legislative assistance on behalf of LSU by keeping "watch" from a key seat on the House floor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hawkins was extremely instrumental in securing, from the Brown family, the donation of property that make up a strategic part of the new medical clinic and urgent care center campus in North Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, while providing information to a legislator on a piece of legislation vital to LSU, and attempting to simultaneously navigate a steep staircase in the capitol, Mr. Hawkins fell and broke his hip sidelining him but not his telephone dialing finger for the remainder of the session; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana is grateful for and recognizes Mr. Hawkins for his unwavering dedication, professional public service, and selfless contribution to the health care of Louisiana's residents.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Mr. Willie F. Hawkins for his forty-two years of distinguished service to the citizens of Louisiana and Baton Rouge in the areas of higher education, health care, and social services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend best wishes to Mr. Willie F. Hawkins for continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mr. Willie F. Hawkins.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE