

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 256

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROSALIND JONES, KATZ, CHANEY, ANDERS, DOWNS,
ELLINGTON, GALLOT, HOFFMANN, AND LITTLE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the support of the Legislature of Louisiana for the E. A. Conway Medical Center to continue serving its current public purpose.

WHEREAS, the Monroe branch of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center (LSU HSC) at Shreveport hospital system is known as the E. A. Conway Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana approved construction of this hospital in 1930 with the intent of providing care to indigent patients in the region who could not travel to charity hospitals in New Orleans or Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, the hospital opened in 1941 as the Northeast Louisiana Charity Hospital, becoming part of the LSU HSC hospital system in 1979; and

WHEREAS, the institution is a fully accredited modern acute care teaching hospital with a broad portfolio of research programs; and

WHEREAS, this hospital currently has two hundred forty-seven licensed beds and one hundred fifty-eight staffed beds, and provides a full range of diagnostic and treatment services for inpatients and outpatients; and

WHEREAS, the hospital sees approximately seven thousand four hundred admissions and one hundred forty-one thousand outpatient visits annually; and

WHEREAS, the E. A. Conway Medical Center has long been a respected institution in the Monroe community and the northeast Louisiana region, and is also a charity hospital serving the needs of some of the most disadvantaged Louisianians; and

WHEREAS, approximately twenty percent of E. A. Conway patients are self-paying or have private insurance, approximately fifty-seven percent have public health insurance

coverage such as Medicare and Medicaid plans, approximately nineteen percent receive free care, and approximately four percent are prisoners; and

WHEREAS, the hospital serves patients from the parishes of Caldwell, East Carroll, Franklin, Jackson, Lincoln, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Richland, Tensas, Union, and West Carroll; and

WHEREAS, a very unfortunate characteristic of Louisiana is her poor health outcomes, especially among the large proportion of her citizens who live in poverty; and

WHEREAS, the challenge of meeting the health care needs of our most vulnerable citizens is daunting, but it is imperative that we meet this challenge if we are to achieve greater prosperity and justice in this state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby expresses its support for the E. A. Conway Medical Center to continue serving its current public purpose.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chancellor of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at Shreveport.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE