2019 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 27

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCFARLAND

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. A. Wayne Orr for his extraordinary impact on combating cardiovascular

disease, procuring research funding, and training researchers.

WHEREAS, Dr. A. Wayne Orr is the director of the Center of Excellence for

Cardiovascular Diseases and Sciences at Louisiana State University (LSU) Health

Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, the faculty at LSU Health Shreveport works to mitigate Louisiana's

biggest health problems, and Dr. Orr has earned acknowledgment for his tireless and

successful pursuit of significant competitive grants from the National Institutes of Health to

address cardiovascular disease; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Orr is the principal investigator for three R01 grants funded by the

National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and the National Institute of Diabetes and

Digestive and Kidney Disease totaling more than $4.5 million; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Orr is the first faculty member at LSU Health Shreveport to have

three concurrent R01 grants; the R01 grant is the original and historically oldest grant

mechanism utilized by the National Institutes of Health; and

WHEREAS, over the past twenty-one years, Dr. Orr's research has sought to

understand how the local microenvironment affects vascular cell signaling in pathological

processes such as atherosclerosis, angiogenesis, and ischemia-reperfusion injury; his

laboratory has published more than fifty manuscripts on vascular cell biology, and numerous

papers on redox biology and its related pathologies; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Orr's research has identified a critical role for the extracellular matrix in the regulation of endothelial cell function, characterizing novel signaling mechanisms and identifying specific receptors involved in this response; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Orr is actively involved with the American Heart Association; he is a national reviewer for the Cell Biology 3 study section and the Collaborative Science Awards; he is an educator for the north Louisiana American Heart Association board of directors and he is a mentor for recipients of the American Heart Association pre-doctoral fellowship; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Orr has generously given of his time and knowledge to mentor more than fifty medical and basic science students and post-degree trainees, many of whom are on course for successful careers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Orr is a professor in the Department of Pathology and Translational Pathobiology, the Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, and the Department of Cellular Biology and Anatomy; he is director of the Division of Research in the Department of Pathology and Translational Pathobiology; and

WHEREAS, the work Dr. Orr does at LSU Health Shreveport complements his involvement in the North American Vascular Biology Association, the American Heart Association, the American Diabetes Association, and the American Society of Cell Biology; he is a charter member of the National Institutes of Health Vascular Cell and Molecular Biology Study Section and serves on the editorial board of *Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis, and Vascular Biology*; Dr. Orr also provides reviews for more than thirty professional journals; and

WHEREAS, the research acumen of Dr. A. Wayne Orr, his ability to procure research funding, and the training he provides to medical students and researchers is invaluable to the successes LSU Health Shreveport has achieved in mitigating the effects of cardiovascular disease on the citizens of the state, the nation, and the world.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. A. Wayne Orr for his remarkable intellect and dedication in finding treatments for diseases that impact our citizens and does hereby recognize his efforts in enhancing the economy of north Louisiana through the procurement of significant extramural grant funding.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. A. Wayne Orr.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE