

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 138

BY REPRESENTATIVES BROADWATER, ABRAMSON, ADAMS, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, BADON, BARRAS, BARROW, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, STUART BISHOP, WESLEY BISHOP, BROWN, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARMODY, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, CHANEY, CONNICK, COX, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOVE, EDWARDS, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GAROFALO, GEYMANN, GISCLAIR, GREENE, GUILLORY, GUINN, HARRIS, HARRISON, HAVARD, HAZEL, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HONORE, HOWARD, HUNTER, HUVAL, IVEY, KATRINA JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JOHNSON, JONES, KLECKLEY, LAMBERT, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LEOPOLD, LOPINTO, LORUSSO, MACK, MILLER, MONTOUCET, MORENO, JAY MORRIS, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, ORTEGO, PEARSON, PIERRE, PONTI, POPE, PRICE, PUGH, PYLANT, REYNOLDS, RICHARD, RITCHIE, ROBIDEAUX, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SHADOIN, SIMON, SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, STOKES, TALBOT, THIBAUT, THIERRY, THOMPSON, WHITNEY, ALFRED WILLIAMS, PATRICK WILLIAMS, WILLMOTT, AND WOODRUFF

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Clea Edward Parker, former president of Southeastern Louisiana University.

WHEREAS, Dr. Clea Edward Parker served as president of Southeastern Louisiana University for over twelve years, from January, 1968, through June, 1980; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Parker's tenure as president, the school transitioned from a college to a university, which increased its standing among post-secondary institutions; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern Louisiana University experienced a forty percent growth in enrollment during Dr. Parker's term as president; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker obtained legislative approval to undertake an ambitious renovation and construction program at the university, including the building of the Southeastern School of Nursing in Baton Rouge, the C.E. Cate Teacher Education Center, the Athletic Building, the humanities building now known as D. Vickers Hall, the Health and Physical Education Building, the new Sims Memorial Library, and the Southeastern University Center; and

WHEREAS, a hallmark of Dr. Parker's term as president was his focus on increasing the role of students in the university, including their involvement in determining graduate programs to be offered; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker increased student involvement by naming students to serve on university-wide committees, having an open-door policy for students to visit with him in his office, and visiting students in cafeterias, classrooms, and on the grounds; and

WHEREAS, Clea Edward Parker was born to William and Lutretia Davis Parker on April 2, 1927, in Talisheek, Louisiana, in St. Tammany Parish; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker's life was one committed to education, beginning as an instructor at Rugby Academy in New Orleans and continuing seventeen years in the St. Tammany Parish School System as a teacher, coach, supervisor, and eventually, Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the parish school system; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker served as principal of Mandeville High School and was the first graduate of that school to serve as its principal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker earned his Bachelor of Arts degree at Southeastern Louisiana College and, interestingly, was the first alumnus of that institution to serve as its president; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker earned his Master of Education and Doctor of Education degrees from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, in his many years as an educator, Dr. Parker served on a number of local, state, and national committees and was recognized by many educational organizations as a leader in the field of education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker considered education to be a lifetime endeavor, and he attended training and classes at Tulane University, Peabody College of Education and Human Development, the University of Kansas, and the University of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, after his tenure as president, Dr. Parker was named President Emeritus and he remained vitally interested and active in the life of Southeastern Louisiana University, attending events and inquiring as to the state of the university and offering his assistance; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker is survived by his wife of more than sixty years, Peggy Faciane Parker, his sons, Brian and Stephen and their families, and his daughters, Karen Parker Ellis and Robin Parker and their families; and

WHEREAS, Dr. John L. Crain, the current president of Southeastern Louisiana University, remarked that Parker's "lifelong commitment to education serves as an inspiration for us all".

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Dr. Clea Edward Parker, former president of Southeastern Louisiana University, and does hereby record for posterity enduring appreciation for his lifetime of outstanding contributions and achievements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his beloved wife, Peggy Faciane Parker.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES