

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 139

BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHNSON

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Richard Michel upon his retirement as the longtime mayor of Marksville.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that a sincere and heartfelt measure of appreciation and commendation be expressed to Dr. Richard Michel for his remarkable term of public service as mayor of Marksville; and

WHEREAS, for more than twenty-eight years as mayor, Richard Michel has consistently demonstrated his dedicated spirit and unwavering determination to improve the quality of life of the people of Marksville; and

WHEREAS, Richard Michel was born on May 27, 1932, to Marksville natives Edmond Michel and Sylvia Roy, and has one brother, Daniel E. Michel, and one sister, Sylvia Ella Turnage; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, Dr. Michel was valedictorian of his graduating class at Marksville High School, and he furthered his education at Louisiana State University, where he received a bachelor of science degree in 1953 and LSU Medical School in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, in 1956, Richard Michel married Margaret Bennett of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and he served in the United States Air Force from 1958 until 1960; he was a captain and head of obstetrics and gynecology at Robins Air Force Base hospital in Georgia as well as the assistant hospital administrator; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Michel returned to Marksville in 1960 to practice medicine at Marksville Hospital, where he still practices today; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Michel has served with distinction as mayor of Marksville for nearly three decades and is credited with helping to transform Marksville from a town into a city; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Michel was instrumental in encouraging the expansion of the Super Wal-Mart and assisted the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe in establishing Paragon Casino, and under his superb tenure of leadership, many parts of Marksville have been built and improved, including city hall, the police and fire stations, the city courtroom, judges' offices, and the water system building; and

WHEREAS, the proud father of Margaret Suzone Alfred and Donna Renee Lemoine, Dr. Michel has two granddaughters, one grandson, and one great-granddaughter; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his highly productive and effective service as a physician and mayor of Marksville, Dr. Michel was an Eagle Scout and a Boy Scout, received the Ad Altare Dei Catholic medal, and has served as a charter member of the American Academy of Family Physicians, a member of the Southern Medical Association, a member and longtime president of the Avoyelles Medical Association, a member and board member of the Council on Aging, a member and first vice president of the Jaycees, a member of the Knights of Columbus, a board member of Cottonport Bank and the Airport Authority Board, a member and board member of the Marksville Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Lions Club and the Avoyelles Cattlemen's Association, the first president of the Avoyelles Mayors' Association, and the first chief of staff at Avoyelles Hospital; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Richard Michel merits a special measure of commendation for his singular contributions to Marksville, whose citizens will long reap the benefits of his wonderful legacy.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Richard Michel for his outstanding accomplishments upon his retirement as the longtime mayor of Marksville, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his vital contributions and the tremendous pride that he brings to Marksville, to Avoyelles Parish, and to the state of Louisiana, does hereby extend to him sincere appreciation for the honorable manner in which he has consistently served, and does hereby wish him full measures of continued success and happiness in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Richard Michel.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES