

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 142

BY REPRESENTATIVE KNOX

A RESOLUTION

To commend LSU Health New Orleans on receipt of the Billy and Marcia Beer gift that fully funds scholarships for ten medical students each year.

WHEREAS, the LSU Health New Orleans Foundation has received a \$7.5 million gift from the estate of Marcia and Billy Beer; it is the largest gift in the Foundation's history; and

WHEREAS, the endowed donation will support four-year tuition scholarships to LSU Health New Orleans School of Medicine, and the scholarships will be funded by the interest earned on the gift, leaving the principal intact to grow for new scholarships forever; they will allow qualified students who would otherwise be unable to afford medical school to become physicians; and

WHEREAS, the gift agreement contains a unique request from the Beers, that upon completion of their medical school and residency training and upon beginning their medical practice that each scholarship recipient demonstrates an appreciation of their gift by offering, when practical, one day of free medical care each month to a patient unable to afford care; and

WHEREAS, the Beer scholarships will become effective for the 2024 incoming class; applications will be reviewed by the LSU Health New Orleans Foundation Development Committee, and the scholarships will be awarded, upon approval, by a separate, independent scholarship committee utilizing a sophisticated awards management system; and

WHEREAS, Billy Beer had a career in finance, and Marcia Beer was an executive vice president of a major local bank; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Beer received care from LSU Health physicians throughout his adult life, managing his polio and post-polio syndrome; the quality of that care inspired the couple to name the LSU Health Sciences Foundation as a beneficiary of their estate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend LSU Health New Orleans on receipt of a Billy and Marcia Beer gift that fully funds scholarships for medical students and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that this incredible donation inspire medical students to follow the Beers' example of community service.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES