

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 216

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREIBERG

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., for his service as interim president of Louisiana State University

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., for his service as interim president of Louisiana State  
3 University.

4 WHEREAS, Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., began his academic career at LSU as a law  
5 professor in 1986, progressed to serving as dean of law at the University of Tennessee, then  
6 as president of Colby Sawyer College, returning home in 2016 to serve as dean of the LSU  
7 Paul M. Hebert Law Center; and

8 WHEREAS, in late 2019, the LSU Board of Supervisors was in need of an interim  
9 president to serve for a short period while the board began a search for a permanent  
10 president, and Mr. Galligan readily accepted the challenge; and

11 WHEREAS, expectations of a bright and prosperous 2020 were set when the LSU  
12 Tigers won the national football championship during Mr. Galligan's first month in office;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, following the emergence and rapid global spread of the COVID-19  
15 virus, Mr. Galligan led the university into a virtual learning environment on March 12, 2020,  
16 that, while undesirable, was necessary to protect the health of the students, faculty, and  
17 community; and

18 WHEREAS, under his leadership and collaborative direction, the many campuses of  
19 LSU were leading the fight against COVID-19 by producing health workers faster,  
20 conducting clinical trials on treatments and therapies, and creating personal protective  
21 equipment; and

1           WHEREAS, Mr. Galligan guided the university toward the initiation of a utility  
2 infrastructure overhaul that had been needed for years but had been deferred due to cost; and

3           WHEREAS, during his time as president, LSU saw its graduation and retention rates  
4 rise to record levels; and

5           WHEREAS, LSU also faced allegations of Title IX errors, which came to light in  
6 November 2020, and Mr. Galligan committed to an open and transparent process of  
7 reviewing the cases and improving the Title IX operations; and

8           WHEREAS, Mr. Galligan earnestly provided valuable information to the Senate  
9 Select Committee on Women and Children for an extended period of time, earning the  
10 respect of the committee members and legislators; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Galligan's period as interim president was originally expected to  
12 be three to six months but expanded to an eighteen-month term of service that encompassed  
13 some of the biggest challenges the institution has ever faced; and

14           WHEREAS, in recognition of Mr. Galligan's exceptional level of leadership,  
15 commitment, and personal sacrifice, the LSU Board of Supervisors retroactively removed  
16 the interim from his title, making him president of LSU effective January 2020; and

17           WHEREAS, Mr. Galligan capably navigated the eight-campus LSU family through  
18 multiple crises, and his leadership enabled the university to endure the COVID-19 pandemic,  
19 develop its outdated policies and procedures, and emerge ready to return to normal activities;  
20 and

21           WHEREAS, Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., faced a seeming insurmountable degree of  
22 hardships during his brief tenure as Louisiana State University's president, but he faced these  
23 challenges with poise; he is most deserving of recognition for his service.

24           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
25 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., for his service as  
26 interim president of Louisiana State University; does hereby express its sincere gratitude to  
27 Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., for agreeing to serve as president during unprecedented times and  
28 providing outstanding leadership to the university; and does hereby extend sincere hopes that  
29 he enjoy continued success as he moves on to another venture in life.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to  
2 Thomas C. Galligan, Jr.

---

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

HR 216 Original

2021 Regular Session

Freiberg

Commends Thomas C. Galligan, Jr., for his service as interim president of La. State University.