

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 220

BY REPRESENTATIVE FOIL

COMMENDATIONS: Commends George Lee Griffin, Sr., upon his retirement as president and chief executive officer of the LSU Foundation and for 55 years of civic activism, public service, and philanthropy in the state

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend George Lee Griffin, Sr., upon his retirement as president and chief executive  
3 officer of the LSU Foundation and for his fifty-five years of civic activism, public  
4 service, and philanthropy in the state of Louisiana.

5 WHEREAS, George Lee Griffin, Sr., was born in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on  
6 September 19, 1938, to Dale and Catherine Griffin; he is the sibling of A.D.; and

7 WHEREAS, the family settled in Dallas, Texas, where Lee excelled in athletics at  
8 Highland Park High School, and he earned a diving scholarship to the University of Texas;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, he received a degree in economics from the University of Texas; and

11 WHEREAS, while attending graduate school at LSU, he met the love of his life,  
12 Elizabeth "Barrie" Lobdell, whom he married shortly after earning a masters degree in  
13 economics and finance; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin began to work as a management trainee at Louisiana  
15 National Bank and became president of the bank at the age of forty; and

16 WHEREAS, under his leadership, Louisiana National Bank was a pioneer in banking  
17 with innovations such as drive-through tellers, issuing credit cards, and multi-parish  
18 banking; and

1           WHEREAS, he later became president, chief executive officer, and chairman of  
2 Premier Bank; he retired as president and chief executive officer of Bank One, Louisiana,  
3 which is now known as Chase; and

4           WHEREAS, while serving as a bank president and in his retirement, Mr. Griffin  
5 served on numerous civic and nonprofit boards; and

6           WHEREAS, governors Foster, Blanco, and Jindal each appointed him to the  
7 Louisiana State Civil Service Commission, and he was selected to chair the SECURE  
8 Commission; and

9           WHEREAS, in recognition of his civic activism and philanthropy, Mr. Griffin has  
10 received numerous awards and honors, including the LSU Alumni Association Hall of  
11 Distinction, the E.J. Ourso College of Business Hall of Distinction, *Greater Baton Rouge*  
12 *Business Report* and Junior Achievement Hall of Fame's 1996 Businessperson of the Year,  
13 the National Conference of Christians and Jews' Brotherhood Award, and the Golden Deeds  
14 Award granted by the Inter-Civic Council and *The Advocate*; and

15           WHEREAS, he became a member of the LSU Foundation Board of Directors in 1981  
16 and is the longest serving active member of the board, for which he served as president from  
17 1989-1990; and

18           WHEREAS, in July of 2011, upon the request of the board, Mr. Griffin succeeded  
19 retiring LSU Foundation president and chief executive officer Major General William  
20 Bowdon in an interim role; in the following month, the board asked him to stay for an  
21 indefinite period; and

22           WHEREAS, upon the retirement of Mr. Griffin, Stephen Moret was selected to  
23 succeed him; and

24           WHEREAS, Mr. Griffin is a man of strong faith and an active member of St. James  
25 Episcopal Church, where he currently serves as the senior warden; and

26           WHEREAS, he is the loving husband of Barrie, and the proud father of Lee, Jr., Bill,  
27 and Beth; the grandfather of Allison, Anna Katherine, Lauren, Griffin, Madeline, Jack,  
28 Michael, and Andrew; and the great-grandfather of Aubrey and Lydia; and

1           WHEREAS, he looks forward to spending more time with his family, traveling,  
2 watching his grandchildren's sporting events, witnessing more high school and college  
3 graduations, and duck hunting.

4           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
5 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend George Lee Griffin, Sr., upon his retirement  
6 as president and chief executive officer of the LSU Foundation and does hereby commend  
7 him for his fifty-five years of civic activism, public service, and philanthropy in the state of  
8 Louisiana.

9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
10 to George Lee Griffin, Sr.

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#### 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)]

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HR 220 Original

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