

Regular Session, 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 113

BY SENATOR BROOME

HOSPITALS. Requests the LSU Board of Supervisors to provide a written, detailed overview and time line for the closure of the Earl K. Long Medical Center.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State University and
3 Agricultural and Mechanical College to provide a written, detailed overview and
4 time line for the closure of the Earl K. Long Medical Center, including specifics
5 relative to the transfer of its medical education and inpatient hospital care to Our
6 Lady of the Lake Medical Center.

7 WHEREAS, the Earl K. Long Medical Center is a state-run, acute care medical
8 facility that serves East Baton Rouge Parish and the seven surrounding parishes within its
9 designated coverage area: Ascension, West Baton Rouge, East and West Feliciana, Iberville,
10 Livingston, and Pointe Coupee; and

11 WHEREAS, the Earl K. Long Medical Center's mission is to provide quality care to
12 residents in East Baton Rouge Parish and the surrounding parishes, regardless of their
13 financial status; and

14 WHEREAS, as a public hospital, the Earl K. Long Medical Center has maintained
15 the public's trust through competent care and service to the community; and

16 WHEREAS, the Earl K. Long Medical Center supports the community it serves
17 through health education and preventive services; and

18 WHEREAS, the Earl K. Long Medical Center serves as a teaching hospital for

1 physician education; and

2 WHEREAS, the Earl K. Long Medical Center's organizational philosophy and core
3 values are access, advocacy, respect, knowledge, excellence, and quality; and

4 WHEREAS, the cooperative endeavor to close Earl K. Long and move its graduate
5 medical teaching facilities and inpatient care to Our Lady of the Lake Regional Medical
6 Center was approved by the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget on March 19, 2010;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the closure of Earl K. Long Medical Center could increase the number
9 of uninsured and poor patients visiting other hospitals in the area without sufficient resources
10 to adequately compensate these hospitals for their care; and

11 WHEREAS, the Earl K. Long Medical Center has served as a primary source of care
12 for generations of underprivileged people in the area who will be forced to search for
13 alternatives to the quality of care that the Earl K. Long Medical Center has provided over
14 the years; and

15 WHEREAS, many residents of East Baton Rouge Parish and the seven surrounding
16 parishes that the hospital serves have lingering questions concerning its closure, including
17 the time line of the closure, patient education about the transfer, continued quality of care
18 to indigent patients, transportation of patients to other hospitals, and the future employment
19 of current Earl K. Long Medical Center employees; and

20 WHEREAS, many of the residents in these parishes have expressed concern
21 regarding the equitable delivery of health care; and

22 WHEREAS, the surrounding community needs some assurance that the core
23 principles upon which the Earl K. Long Medical Center was founded will continue at Our
24 Lady of the Lake Regional Medical Center.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana that
26 the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical
27 College as part of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center should provide a
28 written, detailed overview and time line for the closure of the Earl K. Long Medical Center,
29 including specifics relative to the transfer of its medical education and inpatient hospital care
30 to Our Lady of the Lake Medical Center and including the cost of this collaborative to the

1 state of Louisiana.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
3 chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the Louisiana State University and Agricultural and
4 Mechanical College.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST

Broome

SR No. 113

Requests the LSU Board of Supervisors to provide a written, detailed overview and time line for the closure of the Earl K. Long Medical Center, including specifics relative to the transfer of its medical education and inpatient hospital care to Our Lady of the Lake Medical Center and including the cost of this collaborative to the state.