

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 194

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To commend and congratulate Dr. Vladimir Alexander Appeaning for his extraordinary accomplishments in public postsecondary education and environmental quality.

WHEREAS, Dr. Appeaning currently serves as the assistant vice president for policy with the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) advancing the workforce and transfer mission of the LCTCS and its six strategic policy goals, namely: Double Graduates to 40,000 Annually by 2020, Double the Annual Earnings of our Graduates to \$1.5 Billion by 2020, Quadruple Student Transfers to Four-Year Universities to 10,000 Annually by 2020, Double the Number of Students Served to 325,000 Annually by 2020, Quadruple Partnerships With Business and Industry to 1,000 Annually by 2020, and Double Foundation Assets to \$50 Million by 2020; and

WHEREAS, he was appointed from 2008 through 2015 as the deputy secretary of the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ), where he oversaw the statewide operations of LDEQ's Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) loan program, which in collaboration with United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) has resulted in surface water quality improvements statewide in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Appeaning secured federal funds for wastewater infrastructure improvements totaling \$157.5 million in capitalization grants from the USEPA, quintupled the amount of CWSRF infrastructure dollars committed to wastewater improvements statewide from approximately \$100 million in 2008 to approximately \$632.3 million in 2015, quintupled the number of CWSRF municipal wastewater improvement projects statewide from 25 projects in 2008 to 138 projects in 2015, and quintupled the number of parishes served by CWSRF infrastructure funds for wastewater improvements from 10 parishes in 2008 to 55 parishes in 2015; and

WHEREAS, he oversaw statewide operations of LDEQ's Business, Community Outreach and Incentives Division, which encompassed the CWSRF loan program,

Regulatory Compliance Assistance for Louisiana Small Businesses and Communities, Enviro-School for Louisiana Businesses and Communities, Environmental Leadership, Non-Point Source Pollution Management, Aquifer and Source Water Protection, and Strategic Planning, Policy Development and Performance; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Appeaning served as the agency's chief legislative liaison and governmental relations officer, where he built, strengthened and expanded upon partnerships with several stakeholder groups that included business and industry, professional and trade associations, community groups and nongovernmental organizations such as the Louisiana Chemical Association, Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, Louisiana Oil and Gas Association, Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, Louisiana Solid Waste Association, Louisiana Rural Water Association, Louisiana Police Jury Association, Louisiana Municipal Association (LMA), Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, Council for a Better Louisiana, Louisiana Environmental Action Network, and the public at large; and

WHEREAS, he served on multiple statewide boards and commissions that included the Atchafalaya Research and Promotion Board, False River Advisory Council and gubernatorial appointment to the Louisiana Environmental Education Commission; and

WHEREAS, as deputy secretary of the LDEQ, Dr. Appeaning was awarded the prestigious Leadership Award for Being a True Friend of the Louisiana Municipal Association and for Your Service to Louisiana's 303 Cities, Towns, and Villages, by the LMA in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Appeaning was awarded the prestigious President's Award for Distinguished Service and Recognition of Meritorious Service to Municipal Governments in Louisiana and Your Love of Country, by the LMA in 2011; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Appeaning was awarded the prestigious Award for Exemplary Leadership and Service to Louisiana, by his alma mater, Southern University and A&M College, College of Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, Baton Rouge in 2010; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2007, he served as an adjunct professor in the prestigious Nelson Mandela School of Public Policy and Urban Affairs teaching graduate courses in the Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program at Southern University and A&M College;

and

WHEREAS, from 2006 to 2007, Dr. Appeaning was appointed as the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management by the president of Langston University, the state of Oklahoma's only historically black college and university, where he directly managed the operations of office of admissions and recruitment, office of financial aid and scholarships, office of the registrar, office of retention, counseling center, health services center, office of student development and activities, office of student housing and residential life, Annie Laurie Coleman Heritage Center, and the TRIO Programs which include Education Talent Search, Student Support Services and Upward Bound; and

WHEREAS, as vice president and member of the president's cabinet, Dr. Appeaning served as the accreditation chair for the Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management at Langston University during the 2007 reaffirmation visit by the accreditation team representing the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, Langston University's accreditation was reaffirmed for 10 years through 2017; and

WHEREAS, as vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at Langston University, he was recognized by the Oklahoma State Legislature, with a Citation for Exemplary Service and Dedication to Langston University, pursuant to a motion by Langston University alumni Representative Anastasia Pittman, in 2007, the recognition being in direct response to the Langston University's successful reaffirmation of accreditation; and

WHEREAS, from 2003 to 2006, Dr. Appeaning served in several career progression appointments at Grambling State University that included tenure-track assistant professor of public administration in the MPA Program, director of community relations, and associate vice president in the office of academic affairs, where he worked under the provost and vice president for academic affairs on a multitude of academic matters that included teaching, assessment of student learning outcomes, summer school operations, curriculum development, academic budgets, graduate education, research and sponsored programs, the first year experience program, distance learning, as well as serving on multiple university-wide committees that included the Council of Academic Deans, University

Planning Council, University Curriculum Committee, Graduate Council, Information Technology Advisory Council, University Registration Committee, University Retention Committee, University Catalog Committee, University Advisement Committee, University Black History Committee; and

WHEREAS, as the associate vice president in the office of academic affairs, he was instrumental in the successful reaffirmation of Grambling State University's Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges with the university's next reaffirmation of accreditation scheduled for 2020; and

WHEREAS, from 1996 to 2003, Dr. Appeaning served in several career progression appointments at Southern University and A&M College that included research assistant and assistant director of the National Urban Research Center, a federally funded multi-disciplinary collaborative between the United States Department of the Interior (US DOI) and the university, where Dr. Appeaning's work focused on three key areas: faculty research and technical assistance; noncredit workforce training, and student/faculty federal internship placements with research outcomes and deliverables including four federally funded research proposals by the USDOI in the amount of \$100,000 with semiannual training sessions being conducted that emphasized the mastery of the "hard skills" often equated to job access and mastery of the "soft skills" often equated to job retention; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Appeaning's memberships include Life Member of the Southern University National Alumni Federation, Southern University Home Alumni Chapter, Leadership Louisiana Class of 2015 - Council for a Better Louisiana, Pi Gamma Mu - International Honor Society in Social Sciences, Golden Key National Honors Society Westgate Church in Port Allen, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Appeaning graduated with the highest Latin honors, Summa Cum Laude with a 3.94 cumulative grade point average, being the first in the nation to graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Urban Forestry in 1994 from Southern University and A&M College, where he served as the Chief Student Marshal of the fall 1994 graduating class, then earning three consecutive graduate degrees from the university namely: an MPA in 1996, a Master of Science in Environmental Science in 1999, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Public Policy Analysis in 2000; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Appeaning is married to the love of his life, his college sweetheart Monique Appeaning, who works as a Legislative Fiscal Analyst and Coordinator of Special Projects for the Louisiana Legislative Fiscal Office.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend and congratulate Dr. Vladimir Alexander Appeaning for his extraordinary leadership, exemplary public service, quantifiable accomplishments, and uncompromised commitment and dedication to moving Louisiana forward in the areas of public postsecondary education and environmental quality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Vladimir Alexander Appeaning.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE