

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 44

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

A RESOLUTION

To commend Sharon L. Dunn, PT, PhD, for her tremendous leadership and her impact on the medical field of Physical Therapy and its distinctive role in the improvement of healthcare outcomes.

WHEREAS, Dr. Sharon Dunn, PT, PhD, and a board-certified Orthopaedic Clinical Specialist, has brought honor to the state of Louisiana through her appointment, for a second term, as president of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) and as president of the APTA Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, her vast knowledge of physical therapy and of the American Physical Therapy Association resulted in her selection as the media spokesperson for the APTA, a role she has held for the past twenty-three years; and

WHEREAS, since 1985, Dr. Dunn has also been a fervent leader in the Louisiana Physical Therapy Association (LPTA), having served as president and state government affairs chairman of the organization; and

WHEREAS, her passions include advocacy, member engagement, and the potential of the physical therapy profession to add greater value to the healthcare delivery system; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dunn actively addresses the heightened demand for physical therapists which is projected to increase by twenty-eight percent by 2026, at a much faster rate than most occupations; and

WHEREAS, by leading the charge to create a doctoral program (PhD) in Rehabilitation Sciences at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center-Shreveport, Dr. Dunn developed a post-professional residency program in Orthopaedic Physical Therapy at the LSU Health Sciences Center in 2008, which has produced twenty-three graduates; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dunn served as the director of this accredited and credentialed program for seven years; she also serves as chairman of the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences and as a tenured associate professor in the School of Allied Health Professions in Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dunn is also active on numerous committees in the School of Allied Health Professions, the School of Medicine, and the School of Graduate Studies; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dunn holds membership in several medical associations that include being a long-time member of the Louisiana Sports Medicine Society and an associate member of the International Society for Hyaluronan Science; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dunn is a student and faculty inductee of the Alpha Eta Society, an organization that recognizes students and faculty in the top ten percent in the field of allied health professionals; and

WHEREAS, she is a recipient of the Allen A. Copping Excellence in Teaching Award, a nationally known keynote speaker and presenter, and a peer-reviewed publisher of scientific articles and illustrations; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sharon Dunn is a native of the state of Louisiana; she pursued her education entirely within this great state; and she serves as a role model for youth who wish to pursue a medical education and professional career in their home state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Sharon L. Dunn for her exceptional dedication and remarkable impact on the profession of Physical Therapy and on healthcare in the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sharon L. Dunn, PT, PhD.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE