

2019 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 123

BY SENATOR BISHOP

COMMENDATIONS. Commends Dillard University on its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Dillard University upon the occasion of its one hundred fiftieth anniversary.

3 WHEREAS, Dillard University is celebrating its one hundred fiftieth year of  
4 providing excellence in higher education to the state, nation, and world; and

5 WHEREAS, the roots of Dillard University were planted in 1869 when philanthropist  
6 Seymour Straight was assisted by an abolitionist group, American Missionary Association  
7 of the Congregational Church, to found Straight University, one of the first African  
8 American universities in Louisiana; in 2017, the Preservation Resource Center completed  
9 a renovation of the only remaining edifice of Straight University, which had been built  
10 between 1866 and 1871 and served as a boarding house and dining hall; and

11 WHEREAS, New Orleans University was founded in 1872 by the Methodist  
12 Episcopal church; by the early 20th century, New Orleans University and Straight University  
13 were beset by insufficient funds, and the administrations of both universities desired to  
14 locate closer to the city's black population; and

15 WHEREAS, the cornerstone of the campus of the combined universities was laid on  
16 May 27, 1934, on Gentilly Boulevard, and Dillard University opened for enrollment on  
17 September 24, 1935; the architect for the campus, Moise Goldstein, designed the stately  
18 main buildings in a classical revival style; its gleaming white buildings are highlighted by

