

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 75

BY SENATOR WHEAT

A RESOLUTION

To commend Southeastern Louisiana University on the occasion of its centennial anniversary and to recognize the institution's impact on the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Southeastern Louisiana University began as Hammond Junior College on September 14, 1925, and welcomed its first students and ushered in a new level of access to higher learning in the region; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern began offering four-year degrees in 1937 to accommodate both the institution's growth and the continuously evolving educational needs of southeast Louisiana, and the university received full academic accreditation soon after; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern has historically recognized the need to expand access to higher education for people in the region, and in 1955, the university became one of the first integrated higher education institutions in the South; and

WHEREAS, the institution changed its name from Southeastern Louisiana College to Southeastern Louisiana University in 1970, prior to marking its fiftieth anniversary; and

WHEREAS, the Northshore region grew significantly in 1997, and the Southeastern student population reached fifteen thousand students, earning the institution recognition as the fastest-growing university in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern became a doctoral-granting university in 2006, and the university is approaching research status in its centennial year; in the institution's one-hundred-year history, it has granted nearly one hundred thousand degrees, currently offers more than one hundred fifty programs of study, and has over eighty thousand living alumni, sixty-one thousand of whom live in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern Louisiana University currently has a \$1 billion annual impact to the state of Louisiana, and the institution supports fifteen thousand jobs in the region, impacting generations of Louisianians.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Southeastern Louisiana University on the occasion of its centennial anniversary and does hereby extend enduring appreciation to the institution for its contributions to the state of Louisiana.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE