

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 142

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

COMMENDATIONS. To commend and celebrate Dr. William F. Tate IV, President of Louisiana State University, for his steadfast dedication to the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the entire LSU community.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and celebrate Dr. William F. Tate IV for his historic appointment and
3 distinguished service as president of Louisiana State University, and to recognize his
4 visionary leadership, academic excellence, and unwavering commitment to
5 advancing higher education in the state of Louisiana.

6 WHEREAS, Dr. William F. Tate IV was appointed the 28th president of Louisiana
7 State University on May 6, 2021, becoming the first African American to lead LSU in its
8 162-year history and the first to serve as president of any university in the Southeastern
9 Conference; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Tate serves as both the chief executive and academic officer of the
11 LSU system and the flagship campus in Baton Rouge, providing strategic leadership and
12 direction for an extensive statewide network that includes campuses in Alexandria, Eunice,
13 and Shreveport, the Health Sciences Centers in New Orleans and Shreveport, the LSU
14 Agricultural Center, and the Pennington Biomedical Research Center; and

15 WHEREAS, under Dr. Tate's leadership, LSU has experienced significant growth
16 and achievement, a record-setting student enrollment across the state, including an increased
17 proportion of out-of-state students, improved graduation rates, and a strengthened position
18 as a leading driver of academic and economic development in Louisiana; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Tate has overseen a remarkable increase in LSU's research
2 enterprise, with more than \$540 million in research expenditures in the last academic year
3 alone, nearly \$200 million more than in 2020, and helped secure the largest federal grant in
4 LSU's history - a potential \$160 million award from the National Science Foundation; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Tate introduced the Pentagon Priority areas: agriculture, biomedical,
6 coast, energy, and defense/cybersecurity; establishing a strategic research agenda that aligns
7 LSU's strengths with national and state priorities; and

8 WHEREAS, he championed LSU's aspiration to become a Top 50 research university
9 and fueled its momentum toward national prominence through cutting-edge discoveries and
10 impactful initiatives; and

11 WHEREAS, during Dr. Tate's tenure, he was able to accomplish historic
12 achievements, including securing the largest private gift in LSU history, \$245 million for
13 health initiatives, and garnering increased state support across key research sectors; and

14 WHEREAS, during his time, LSU has also celebrated major athletic triumphs,
15 including national championships in baseball, women's basketball, and gymnastics, further
16 enhancing the university's national profile and school spirit; and

17 WHEREAS, Dr. Tate's presidency has not been without challenges, as he led LSU
18 through periods of political and institutional transition, including the aftermath of a
19 high-profile Title IX investigation, shifts in state leadership, and broader national debates
20 about higher education, while maintaining a steadfast commitment to academic freedom and
21 student opportunity; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. Tate continues to embody the values of scholarship, integrity, and
23 public service, combining intellectual rigor with humility and accessibility, always keeping
24 students' welfare and educational access at the forefront of his presidency; and

25 WHEREAS, his dedication, vision, and tireless efforts have left a lasting impact on
26 the LSU community and has earned him the admiration of students, faculty, staff, and
27 alumni alike; and

28 WHEREAS, on May 26, 2025, Dr. Tate announced he has accepted the position of
29 President at Rutgers University and will conclude his service at LSU on June 30, 2025; and

30 WHEREAS, although his departure is met with sincere regret, the state of Louisiana

1 expresses deep gratitude for his four years of dedication and outstanding leadership and
2 wishes him continued success in his future endeavors.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
4 does hereby commend and acknowledge Dr. William F. Tate IV for his extraordinary
5 accomplishments, courageous leadership, and steadfast dedication to students, faculty, staff,
6 alumni, and the entire Louisiana State University community.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr.
8 William F. Tate IV.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services.
The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof
or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

	DIGEST	
SR 142 Original	2025 Regular Session	Boudreaux
Commends Dr. William F. Tate IV for his extraordinary accomplishments, courageous leadership, and steadfast dedication to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and the entire Louisiana State University community.		