

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 307

BY REPRESENTATIVE MCMAKIN

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Dr. William F. Tate, IV, Louisiana State University president, for his dedication to the LSU community

1 A RESOLUTION

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

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

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

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

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Tate has overseen a remarkable increase in LSU's research
20 enterprise, with more than \$540 million in research expenditures in the last academic year

1 alone, nearly \$200 million more than in 2020, and helped secure the largest federal grant in
2 LSU's history – a potential \$160 million award from the National Science Foundation; and

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

6 WHEREAS, LSU's aspiration to become a Top 50 research university was
7 strengthened by the efforts of Dr. Tate and fueled the university's momentum toward
8 national prominence through cutting-edge discoveries and impactful initiatives; and

9 WHEREAS, during Dr. Tate's tenure, he accomplished historic achievements such
10 as securing the largest private gift in LSU history, \$245 million for health initiatives, and
11 garnering increased state support across key research sectors; and

12 WHEREAS, during his time, LSU celebrated major athletic triumphs, including
13 national championships in baseball, women's basketball, and gymnastics, all of which
14 enhance the university's national profile and school spirit; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Tate led LSU through periods of political and institutional
16 transition, including the aftermath of a high-profile Title IX investigation, shifts in state
17 leadership, and broader national debates about higher education, while maintaining a
18 steadfast commitment to academic freedom and student opportunity; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Tate continues to embody the values of scholarship, integrity, and
20 public service, combining intellectual rigor with humility and accessibility; he always kept
21 the welfare of students and educational access at the forefront of his presidency; and

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

25 WHEREAS, on May 26, 2025, Dr. Tate announced his acceptance of the position of
26 president of Rutgers University and the conclusion of his service at LSU on June 30, 2025;
27 and

28 WHEREAS, although his departure is met with sincere regret, the citizens of the state
29 of Louisiana express sincere gratitude for his four years of dedication and outstanding
30 leadership and wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

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

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HR 307 Original	2025 Regular Session	McMakin
-----------------	----------------------	---------

Commends Dr. William F. Tate, IV, La. State University president, for his dedication to the LSU community.