

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 126

BY SENATORS GALLOT, ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE AND REPRESENTATIVES KATRINA JACKSON, JEFFERSON, PRICE AND SHADOIN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Frank G. Pogue, President of Grambling State University, for his commitment, service, singular contributions, and outstanding accomplishments and to express gratitude for his exemplary term of dedicated and highly productive public service.

WHEREAS, Dr. Frank George Pogue is a highly respected educator and administrator with a wealth of experience as an agent of positive institutional change and advancement, evidenced by a long and distinguished fifty-two year career in higher education; and

WHEREAS, he was appointed as the eighth President of Grambling State University in June 2010, after serving for seven months as interim president; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pogue has led the university in removing the university from a SACS warning status to unquestioned accreditation; reducing the number of negative audits by the Louisiana Legislative Auditors from nine to zero resulting in, for the first time in recent memory, the university receiving a clean audit; experiencing an undergraduate and graduate enrollment increase for each of the past several years; acquiring an additional one hundred forty-seven acres of land and forty-seven buildings to enhance university growth; successfully meeting and exceeding new legislative performance measures; initiating action to implement fundraising initiatives to replace state funding budget cuts and increase scholarships for students; enhancing campus beautification projects; improving facilities and upgrading the infrastructure; establishing comprehensive strategic and inclusive planning processes; created ten university-wide goals and priorities; and initiating numerous activities designed to enhance community on the campus and in surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, prior to his appointment at Grambling State University, Dr. Pogue was selected as the fifteenth president of Edinboro University of Pennsylvania in 1996, becoming the first African American to serve as president of a historically white university in the state of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, during his eleven years as president of Edinboro, he was hailed as a catalyst behind the "grievance-to-graciousness" transformation on the Edinboro University campus and when he retired in 2007, the university paid tribute to Dr. Pogue's extraordinary leadership by naming its newly constructed student center in his honor and his outstanding accomplishments also earned him the title of President Emeritus of Edinboro University and an Honorary Doctorate of Public Service; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pogue's career has spanned a variety of institutions including historically black and historically white; large, medium and small; urban and rural; north, south and southwest; public and private; church-related; single gender and co-ed and he has developed many funded research and lectureship initiatives and has an impressive list of publications and speeches on a variety of topics; and

WHEREAS, he has extensive experience with regional higher education accreditation, having served over thirty-five years working with the Middle States Association of Colleges and Universities, the Western Association of Colleges and Universities, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Pogue has published extensively, served on a variety of state, national and international boards and board committees, has received numerous honors, and is a member of many academic, social and service groups including Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and a life-member of Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity; and

WHEREAS, he received his undergraduate degree in sociology from Alabama State University, a master's degree in Sociology from Atlanta University (now Clark-Atlanta University), and his PhD in Sociology from the University of Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Pogue's leadership, Grambling State University now enrolls over five thousand undergraduate and graduate students, offers degrees in fifty academic programs, is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and one hundred per cent of its academic programs that are eligible for accreditation are accredited.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Frank G. Pogue for his outstanding accomplishments upon his retirement as president of Grambling State University, does hereby record for posterity his commitment, contributions, and remarkable service as president, does hereby express enduring gratitude for his extraordinary contributions, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for full measures of success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Frank G. Pogue.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES