

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 106

BY SENATORS CROWE, ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, 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

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of the former president of Southeastern Louisiana University, Clea Edward Parker.

WHEREAS, Clea Edward Parker served as president of Southeastern Louisiana University for over twelve years, from January 1968 through June 1980; and

WHEREAS, during Dr. Parker's tenure as president, the school transitioned from a college to a university, which increased its standing among post-secondary institutions; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern Louisiana University experienced a forty percent growth in enrollment during Dr. Parker's term as president; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker obtained legislative approval to undertake an ambitious renovation and construction program at the university, including the building of the Southeastern School of Nursing in Baton Rouge, the C.E. Cate Teacher Education Center, the Athletic Building, D. Vickers Hall (the Humanities building), the Health and Physical Education Building, the new Sims Memorial Library, and the Southeastern University Center; and

WHEREAS, a hallmark of Dr. Parker's term as president were his efforts to increase the role of students in the university, including involvement in the determination of what graduate programs to be offered; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker increased student involvement by naming students to serve on university-wide committees, having an open-door policy for students to visit with him in his office, and visiting students in cafeterias, classrooms, and on the grounds; and

WHEREAS, Clea Edward Parker was born to William and Lutretia Davis Parker on April 2, 1927, in Talasheek, Louisiana, in St. Tammany Parish; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker's life was one committed to education, beginning as an instructor at Rugby Academy in New Orleans and continuing through seventeen years in the St. Tammany Parish School System as a teacher, coach, supervisor, and eventually, Director of Curriculum and Instruction for the parish school system; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker served as principal of Mandeville High School and was the first graduate of that school to serve as its principal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker earned his Bachelor of Arts at Southeastern Louisiana College and, interestingly, was the first alumnus of that institution to serve as its president; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker earned a Master of Education and a Doctor of Education degree from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, in his many years as an educator, Dr. Parker served on a number of local, state, and national committees and was recognized by many educational organizations as a leader in the field of education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker considered education to be a lifetime endeavor, and he attended training and classes at Tulane University, Peabody College, the University of Kansas, and the University of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, after his tenure as president, Dr. Parker was named President Emeritus and he remained vitally interested in and active with the life of Southeastern Louisiana University, attending events and inquiring as to the state of the university and offering his assistance; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Parker is survived by his wife of more than sixty years, Peggy Faciane Parker, and sons Brian and Stephen and their families, and daughters Karen Parker Ellis and Robin Parker and their families; and

WHEREAS, current president of Southeastern Louisiana University, John L. Crain, remarked that Dr. Parker's "lifelong commitment to education serves as an inspiration for us all".

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere condolences upon the death of the former president of Southeastern Louisiana University, Dr. Clea Edward Parker.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr.  
Parker's wife of more than sixty years, Peggy Faciane Parker of Hammond, Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES