

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY SENATORS JOHNS, MORRISH AND JOHN SMITH AND REPRESENTATIVES
ABRAHAM, DANAHAAY, DWIGHT, FRANKLIN, GUINN,
HENSGENS AND HILL

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Mayor Randy Roach for his years of public service to the city of Lake Charles
and to the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, Randy Roach was born in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and graduated from
LaGrange High School; and

WHEREAS, he earned his undergraduate degree in accounting and his Juris Doctor
from Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, from 1985 to 1987, Mayor Roach served as the assistant city attorney
for the city of Lake Charles and represented the city in all phases of the Chennault
Consolidation project; and

WHEREAS, he drafted and presented federal and state legislation and conducted
negotiations with Boeing Aircraft; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1988, Mayor Roach served two terms as a state
representative in the Louisiana Legislature representing District 36; and

WHEREAS, while in the legislature, he served as a member of the Civil Law and
Procedure and Ways and Means committees, and as chairman of the Natural Resources
committee and the subcommittee on Coastal Restoration; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Roach served on the board of directors of many organizations,
including Nature Conservancy of Louisiana, Samaritan Counseling Center, Louisiana
Council on Child Abuse, Southwest Louisiana Mental Health Advisory Board, Southwest
Legal Aid Society, Amerisafe, First National Bank, Louisiana Municipal Association, and
Southwest Louisiana Red Cross; and

WHEREAS, he was first elected mayor of Lake Charles in 2000 to complete the
remainder of an unexpired term and has since been reelected to four full terms; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Roach is the longest serving mayor of Lake Charles and has worked closely with city and parish governments and other agencies to form partnerships and pool resources to benefit Lake Charles and the entire southwest Louisiana five-parish area; and

WHEREAS, he was a strong voice for the creation of the Southwest Louisiana Partnership for Economic Development and worked with the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury to create the Lake Charles Ward 3 Recreation Board, resulting in the Multi-sports Complex, Skate Park, and Adventure Cove; and

WHEREAS, following Hurricane Katrina, Mayor Roach welcomed more than two thousand evacuees from New Orleans to take refuge in the Lake Charles Civic Center; and

WHEREAS, less than one month later, Hurricane Rita ravaged Lake Charles and Mayor Roach and other area leaders quickly assembled the Hurricane Rita task force which immediately began working to repair and rebuild the area; and

WHEREAS, under his administration, 1911 Historic City Hall was established as an arts and cultural center, the new Transit Center was opened, major enhancements to the Lake Charles Civic Center were made, and a new Lake Charles City Court building was constructed; and

WHEREAS, in addition to annual allocations for road improvement projects for each council district, Mayor Roach began annual allocations for citywide projects such as asphalt overlay, sidewalk repair and construction, roadway striping, sewer line rehabilitation, and lift station repairs, and since 2009, approximately six million dollars has been allocated for drainage improvements; and

WHEREAS, current projects under design or construction include a forty-three million dollar wastewater treatment plant, Nelson Road water plant improvements, and the Wastewater Treatment Plant "A" basin repair program; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Millennium Park was rebuilt by volunteers, Veteran Memorial Park was expanded, the First Lt. Douglas Fournet Memorial was added, and Tuten Park, Bark du Lac Dog Park, and Riverside Park and Community Center were opened; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Roach was successful in securing two beams from the World Trade Center and with input from local artists and members of the community, the 9/11

Memorial was designed and constructed on the lakefront; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, community events such as Mardi Gras of Southwest Louisiana, Downtown at Sundown, Live at the Lakefront, Red White Blue and You, and Light Up the Lake Christmas Festival continue to grow and make Lake Charles a wonderful place to live, raise a family, and a top tourist destination; and

WHEREAS, he merits the highest commendation for his exemplary public service and for his outstanding contributions to the state of Louisiana and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depends, in great measure, upon the dedication of people like Mayor Randy Roach who use their considerable talents and Louisiana's rich resources to promote tourism and increase economic growth for future generations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Mayor Randy Roach for his distinguished public service to the citizens of Lake Charles, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his vital contributions and tireless dedication to the state of Louisiana, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mayor Randy Roach.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES