

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 182

BY REPRESENTATIVE LEGER

MUNICIPALITIES/NO: Requests that the owners of *The Times-Picayune* continue to publish a daily print edition, commends the newspaper's staff, and recognizes the singular place the newspaper holds in New Orleans history and in citizens' daily lives

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the owners of *The Times-Picayune* to continue to publish a daily print
3 edition of the newspaper, to commend the staff of the newspaper for steadfast
4 dedication to excellence in journalism, and to recognize the singular place the
5 newspaper holds in the history of New Orleans and in the lives of the citizens who
6 rely on its daily print edition for news and information.

7 WHEREAS, the daily print edition of *The Times-Picayune* has long been a fixture
8 in the lives of the citizens of New Orleans; and

9 WHEREAS, the newspaper is owned by Advance Publications, which is owned by
10 the Newhouse family; and

11 WHEREAS, on Thursday, May 24th, 2012, Advance Publications announced that
12 beginning in the fall of 2012, the print edition of *The Times-Picayune* will be published on
13 a reduced schedule of only three days a week, Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday; and

14 WHEREAS, it was also announced that there will be a reduction in the size of the
15 newspaper's workforce, which is composed of extremely talented and loyal employees; and

16 WHEREAS, the news that *The Times-Picayune* will no longer be printed on a daily
17 basis has been met with widespread shock and profound sorrow, and many citizens consider
18 the idea of the city of New Orleans without a daily newspaper simply unfathomable; and

1 WHEREAS, many people who rely on the print edition of *The Times-Picayune* for
2 daily news do not have access to the Internet and will be without a source for critical news
3 and information four days a week; and

4 WHEREAS, for its staff's consistently exceptional work, *The Times-Picayune* has
5 been the deserving recipient of numerous awards, including several Pulitzer Prizes, such as
6 those in 2006 in the category of Public Service "for its heroic, multi-faceted coverage of
7 Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath, making exceptional use of the newspaper's resources
8 to serve an inundated city even after evacuation of the newspaper plant" and in the category
9 of Breaking News "for its courageous and aggressive coverage of Hurricane Katrina,
10 overcoming desperate conditions facing the city and the newspaper"; and

11 WHEREAS, *The Times-Picayune*, with origins dating back to 1837, is not merely a
12 newspaper but a true institution with a passionately devoted readership spanning multiple
13 centuries and generations; and

14 WHEREAS, daily delivery of *The Times-Picayune* is a tradition woven into the very
15 fabric of New Orleans, and removing it from doorsteps four days a week will have a
16 significant impact not only on the news consumption but also on the culture of the Crescent
17 City.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the owners of *The Times-Picayune*
20 to continue to publish a daily print edition of the newspaper.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives does hereby
22 commend the staff of *The Times-Picayune* for steadfast dedication to excellence in
23 journalism.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives does hereby
25 recognize and record for posterity the singular place *The Times-Picayune* holds not only in
26 the annals of the history of the city of New Orleans but in the lives of the citizens who rely
27 on its daily print edition for vital news and information.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
29 to Steven Newhouse, Donald Newhouse, Ashton Phelps, Jr., and Ricky Mathews.

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)]

Leger

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