

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 281

BY REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERSON

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Dr. Nikole Roebuck, Grambling State University Chair of the Department of Music and Director of Bands

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Dr. Nikole Roebuck for her outstanding service as Chair of the Department of
3 Music and Director of Bands at Grambling State University.

4 WHEREAS, a native of Minden, Louisiana, Nikole Roebuck is a 2001 graduate of
5 Grambling State University's music education program; in 2005, she received a master of
6 music degree from the University of Louisiana at Monroe; and in 2009, received a doctor
7 of philosophy in music education from the University of Memphis; and

8 WHEREAS, while earning her degree at Grambling State University, she met her
9 husband, Esonyo Roebuck, became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated,
10 and served as a member and student leader of the Grambling State University Marching
11 Tigers; and

12 WHEREAS, spending every summer at band camp since the age of four, Nikole
13 Roebuck's passion for music has been there from the beginning, and she always knew she
14 wanted to be a member of a band; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Roebuck's extensive career in music includes training musicians at
16 every level from the elementary grades to the graduate level, and many of her students have
17 gone on to careers as educators, musical directors, and international recording artists; and

18 WHEREAS, her work in the classroom includes instructing students at Grambling
19 State University for more than twelve years in coursework including music education,
20 history, and applied instrumentation; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Roebuck's work includes performances for Beyoncé, Adidas, the
2 National Basketball Association, and numerous national brands; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Nikole Roebuck holds the distinction of being the first woman
4 Director of Bands at Grambling State University and is a second-generation leader of the
5 world-famous band, following in the footsteps of her uncle and fellow alumnus, Dr. Joseph
6 "Doc" Miller, who served as assistant director of bands from 1980 to 1989; and

7 WHEREAS, in addition, Dr. Roebuck holds the special distinction of being only the
8 second woman band director in the history of the Southwestern Athletic Conference and the
9 third in the history of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs); and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Roebuck believes that "music is like a puzzle" and enjoys sharing
11 with her students the practice of deconstructing and rebuilding arrangements to create a
12 musical masterpiece; and

13 WHEREAS, through the sharing of her love of music, Dr. Roebuck has touched the
14 lives of more than fifty thousand students and countless fans worldwide, and under her
15 guidance, the membership of the marching band at Grambling State University has grown
16 by over twenty-five percent; and

17 WHEREAS, she has directed in twelve consecutive Bayou Classics and currently
18 leads a team of seventeen professors and employees in the Department of Music at the
19 university; and

20 WHEREAS, in addition to her vast experience and accomplishments at Grambling
21 State University, Dr. Roebuck has served as a member of numerous professional
22 organizations including the Louisiana Music Educators Association, the Louisiana
23 Bandmasters Association, the National Education Association, Tau Beta Sigma Honorary
24 Band Sorority, and the National Association for Music Education; and

25 WHEREAS, Dr. Roebuck has also been the recipient of many awards and
26 acknowledgments, including an award for outstanding commitment and dedication from
27 Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity, Teacher of the Year from Arcadia
28 High School, Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Leadership Award from Arcadia High
29 School, and a proclamation from the city of Arcadia; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Roebuck is a widely respected and valued member of the Grambling
2 State University family and as stated by President Rick Gallot, "Dr. Roebuck has proven to
3 be one of our most committed and humble leaders" and "she is a gift to our students, our
4 community, and all who support the worldwide sound of Grambling"; and

5 WHEREAS, it is only appropriate that a special measure of commendation be
6 extended to Dr. Nikole Roebuck, a phenomenal talent and treasure who serves as an
7 inspiration to the countless students, musicians, colleagues, friends, relatives, and citizens
8 whose lives she has touched.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
10 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Nikole Roebuck, Chair of the
11 Department of Music and Director of Bands at Grambling State University; does hereby
12 recognize and record for posterity her outstanding accomplishments and singular
13 contributions as the department chair and band leader; does hereby express to this
14 outstanding musician and innovator gratitude for the pride and honor that she brings to
15 Grambling State University and to the state of Louisiana; and does hereby extend to her very
16 best wishes for continued success and happiness.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
18 Dr. Nikole Roebuck.

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 281 Original

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Jefferson

Commends Dr. Nikole Roebuck, Chair of the Department of Music and Director of Bands at Grambling State University.