

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 310

BY REPRESENTATIVE JIMMY HARRIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend Dr. Eve J. Higginbotham, S.M., for her numerous achievements.

WHEREAS, Dr. Higginbotham serves as the vice dean for inclusion and diversity of the Perelman School of Medicine, a senior fellow at the Leonard Davis Institute for Health Economics, and a professor of ophthalmology at the University of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, a New Orleans native and graduate of Benjamin Franklin High School, Dr. Higginbotham studied chemical engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), where she earned her bachelor's and master's degrees; she went on to graduate from Harvard Medical School; and

WHEREAS, after completing an internship in San Francisco and an ophthalmology residency at Louisiana State University, she was a glaucoma fellow at Harvard; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Higginbotham began her illustrious career in patient care in 1985 serving as a practicing ophthalmologist in numerous hospitals in conjunction with affiliations in medical academia; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, Dr. Higginbotham took on the role of chair of the ophthalmology department at the University of Maryland School of Medicine in Baltimore; in 2000, she was elected to the Institute of Medicine; thereafter, she was dean and senior vice president for academic affairs at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, she became senior vice president and executive dean for health sciences at Howard University and was appointed to a four-year term on the National Board of Medical Examiners, the organization responsible for the medical licensing examination in the United States; the following year, she was elected to the MIT Corporation, the school's board of trustees; and

WHEREAS, she is secretary of the board of directors of Ascension Health and serves on Ascension Health's executive, finance, and audit committees; Ascension Health is the largest Catholic health system in the United States; and

WHEREAS, she is a member of the National Academy of Medicine, serving as a member of the membership committee and section chair, and member of the American Clinical and Climatological Association and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Higginbotham is a member of the Defense Health Board of the Department of Defense and the board of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Higginbotham is a former chair of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Ophthalmic Devices Panel; she has authored over one hundred fifty peer-reviewed articles and co-edited four ophthalmology textbooks; and

WHEREAS, she is the recipient of over three dozen honors and awards, including the Women of Achievement Award from the YWCA, the Trailblazer Award from 100 Black Men of Atlanta, the Distinguished Black Marylanders Award from Towson University, two Woman of the Year awards from Zeta Beta Phi Sorority, Incorporated, and the American Academy of Ophthalmology's Senior Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, while providing patient care by serving as a practicing glaucoma specialist at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Higginbotham remains active in scholarship related to health policy, obesity, and surgery; her research interests include access to care, disease prevention, health equity, and global health; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Eve J. Higginbotham, S.M., merits the highest commendation and honor for her distinguished career and her invaluable contributions to the field of ophthalmology.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dr. Eve J. Higginbotham, S.M., for her numerous achievements; does hereby recognize and record her myriad accomplishments and vital contributions to the medical field; and does extend to her best wishes in all her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Eve J. Higginbotham, S.M.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES