

1 WHEREAS, in 2005, Dr. Perkins was awarded a doctor of humane letters from LSU
2 and a doctoral fellowship program to help students achieve their highest potential was
3 created and named in his honor; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins was appointed by Governor Buddy Roemer to the state
5 Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in 1998, and President Bill Clinton named
6 Dr. Perkins to the board of advisors of the J.W. Fullbright foreign scholarship program in
7 1996; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins earned a number of humanitarian awards during his career
9 and served on many boards, including the Capital Area United Way, Baton Rouge
10 Symphony, Louisiana Public Broadcasting Corporation, and the New Orleans Museum of
11 Art; and

12 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and
13 Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, an organization of which he was a former national president; and

14 WHEREAS, the Jaguar Nation of Southern University will forever be indebted to Dr.
15 Perkins for writing Southern's Fight Song in 1951; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins was described by his former colleagues as a classy
17 gentleman with quick wit, an intellectual of the first magnitude, and an inspiration to young
18 people to achieve their highest potential; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins leaves to cherish his memory his wife of sixty-four years,
20 Thelma O. Smith Perkins; one son, Huel Alfred Perkins and his wife Priscilla; two
21 grandsons, Huel Jared Perkins and Vincent Frederick Perkins; three nephews, two
22 godchildren, and a host of cousins and friends; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins was widely respected and admired for his unwavering
24 dedication to higher education and his service to Southern University and LSU; and

25 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins was a man whose generosity, smile, and loving heart have
26 left an indelible mark on the many people whose lives he touched; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins leaves behind a rich and unique legacy of tenacity,
28 determination, integrity, intellect, and professionalism and will forever be remembered for
29 contributions he made to higher education in Louisiana; and

30 WHEREAS, Dr. Perkins will truly be missed by the faculty, staff, and administrators
31 of Southern University and LSU, many of whom were blessed to call him a friend, and he

1 will always be remembered fondly for the genuine interest and regard he exhibited for those
2 with whom he worked and for the diligent, consistent manner in which he provided
3 invaluable service, life lessons, and advice day after day, year after year; and

4 WHEREAS, with the death of Dr. Perkins, Louisiana has lost one of her finest sons,
5 a true Southern gentleman who loved his students, and though his death has created a
6 tremendous void in his community, he will forever remain an inspiration in the minds and
7 hearts of all who knew him.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
9 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the
10 death of Dr. Huel Davis Perkins, does hereby recognize his outstanding achievements and
11 singular contributions to Southern University, Louisiana State University, and the state of
12 Louisiana, does hereby record for posterity his extraordinary gifts and profound talent, his
13 outstanding abilities, and his generosity and kindness, does hereby extend appreciation for
14 his enduring legacy that will continue to be a source of great pride and honor for his family
15 and friends, his community, and the state of Louisiana, and does hereby express the deep
16 regret of the entire state upon the loss of this extraordinary gentleman.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
18 to family of Dr. Huel Davis Perkins.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES