Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 55

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURRELL

1	A RESOLUTION	
2	To commend Dock Voorhies upon his retirement after thirty-three years of dedicated service	
3	to the veterans of Louisiana.	
4	WHEREAS, on May 3, 2013, Dock Voorhies will retire as Chief of Social Work/	
5	Chaplain Services at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center in Shreveport, Louisiana; and	
6	WHEREAS, Mr. Voorhies has been a social worker for thirty-five years and thirty-	
7	three of those years have been with the Department of Veterans Affairs; and	
8	WHEREAS, Mr. Voorhies worked as a social worker in mental health with the state	
9	of Louisiana from 1978 until 1980, after which he began his career with the Department	
10	Veterans Affairs; and	
11	WHEREAS, as Chief of Social Work, Mr. Voorhies advocated for the expansion of	
12	the noninstitutional care program for veterans, which helps veterans to remain in their home	
13	rather than being institutionalized; and	
14	WHEREAS, in 2010, Mr. Voorhies strongly and tirelessly supported efforts to	
15	establish the VA Comfort Care Unit for terminally ill veterans; and	
16	WHEREAS, Mr. Voorhies was also instrumental in organizing the first Operation	
17	Stand in 1995, which is a systemwide approach to providing services to the homeless	
18	including their financial, personal, and hygiene care needs; and	
19	WHEREAS, Mr. Voorhies was initially appointed to the Louisiana Interagency	
20	Action Council for the Homeless by Governor Mike Foster and was reappointed by	
21	Governor Kathleen Blanco; and	
22	WHEREAS, through his advocacy with the local Homeless Coalition, Mr. Voorhies	
23	was successful is securing two million dollars in funding from the United States Department	
24	of Housing and Urban Development to tackle the needs of the homeless in the Shreveport	
25	and Bossier City area; and	

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WHEREAS, Mr. Voorhies also served a term as president of the Homeless Coalition
is a member of the police civil service board of the city of Shreveport, and serves on the
board of Biz Camp, an organization that teaches business and professional skills to local at-
risk youth; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Voorhies brings a deep sense of pride and honor to his family, colleagues at the Overton Brooks VA Medical Center, and all of the friends he has made throughout the course of his highly productive career; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Voorhies merits a sincere and heartfelt measure of commendation for his many outstanding accomplishments as he prepares to begin the next exciting chapter of his life; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana House of Representatives sincerely wishes to acknowledge Mr. Voorhies for the many contributions he has made to his community, to the veterans of the Shreveport and Bossier City area, and to the state of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Dock Voorhies upon his retirement as Chief of Social Work/Chaplain Services at Overton Brooks VA Medical Center after a tenure of very distinguished and formative service, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable accomplishments and manifold contributions to the Overton Brooks VA Medical Center and the state of Louisiana, and does hereby extend to Mr. Voorhies best wishes as he embarks upon new challenges and endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dock Voorhies.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES