

1 WHEREAS, during his tenure of twenty-eight years, SUNO grew in size and strength
2 from those humble beginnings to a student body of four thousand, the establishment of five
3 academic divisions, and an impressive standing in NCAA Division III athletics; and

4 WHEREAS, Dr. Bashful encouraged young men and women to continue their
5 educational instruction whenever possible and achieve their lifelong goals, no matter what
6 obstacles blocked the way; he convinced young minds that higher education was the key to
7 opportunity in life and that hard work and diligence placed success within their grasp; and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Emmett Bashful is remembered at SUNO for his tireless work ethic
9 as a conscientious administrator, who served the system from his appointment as dean in
10 1959, as vice president in 1969, as chancellor in 1977, and as chancellor emeritus upon his
11 retirement in 1987, and continued to serve in an advisory capacity until his death on
12 February 26, 2011, at age ninety-three; and

13 WHEREAS, born on March 12, 1917, in Oscar, Louisiana, in Pointe Coupee Parish,
14 and reared in Baton Rouge, Emmet Bashful attended public school, Leland College, and
15 attained a Bachelor of Science degree from Southern University and A&M College in 1940;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, his teaching career was interrupted by the call to military duty during
18 World War II, when he was drafted into the United States Army; he served admirably in the
19 Mediterranean Theatre of Operations; and he was honorably discharged in 1946, having
20 attained the rank of First Lieutenant; and

21 WHEREAS, after military service, he received a master's degree in political science
22 and a doctoral degree in constitutional law from the University of Illinois at
23 Urbana-Champaign; was inducted into the UIUC Alumni Hall of Fame; and was honored
24 with an endowed professorship in the Political Science Department at SUNO that bears his
25 name; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Emmett W. Bashful received numerous awards for his achievements
27 in higher education that include, a leadership award from the National Association for Equal
28 Opportunity in Higher Education, a distinguished service citation from the National
29 Conference of Christians and Jews, named an Outstanding Citizen of New Orleans by the
30 Institute for Human Understanding, and an alumni achievement award by the College of

1 Liberal Arts and Sciences from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; and

2 WHEREAS, Dr. Bashful lent his leadership skills to various educational and
3 philanthropic organizations such as the New Orleans Area Council of the Boy Scouts of
4 America, the Salvation Army, the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the Committee on
5 Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, the Southern Institute for Education and Research, the
6 New Orleans Public Schools Scholarship Foundation, the Southern Institute for Education
7 and Research at Tulane University, and the National Conference for Community and Justice;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, his other distinctions include lifetime memberships in Alpha Phi Alpha
10 Fraternity, the NAACP, and as chairman of the Southern University at New Orleans
11 Foundation, whose annual fund-raising effort, The BASH, is his namesake; and

12 WHEREAS, on the campus of SUNO a portion of Robert E. Lee Boulevard is named
13 in his honor; and

14 WHEREAS, as an undergraduate, he pledged Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity at Beta
15 Sigma at Southern University in 1939, maintained very strong ties within the brotherhood
16 for seventy years; earned its highest individual honor, the Alpha Phi Alpha Award of Merit,
17 in 1999, and at the 103rd Anniversary Convention, the Senior Brothers' Lounge was named
18 in his honor; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Emmett W. Bashful was a gifted academic, a mentor, and a father
20 to generations of SUNO students, who were bolstered by his motivation, and who strived to
21 create successful lives and a better world, and for those outstanding characteristics, he shall
22 be fondly remembered; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Emmett W. Bashful was preceded in death by his wife, Juanita
24 Jones Bashful, and is survived by a daughter, Cornell Morgan; a granddaughter,
25 Natasha Biggers; and a grandson, Anthony Nugent; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Emmett W. Bashful always believed that access to educational
27 opportunities was essential to the progress of mankind, and that scholarly institutions
28 produce highly trained and highly motivated individuals; that these are the keystones of a
29 more democratic society; and

30 WHEREAS, throughout his lifetime of nearly a century, he witnessed the fruition of

1 extraordinary advancements in academic options for minorities; he shared his years of
2 scholarship and invaluable administrative experience with others; he proved himself to be
3 a man of many talents, a man of his word, and a man whose dedication to learning has been
4 a priceless gift to the state of Louisiana.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
6 commend and acknowledge a lifetime of academic excellence forged by the late Dr. Emmett
7 W. Bashful on behalf of the betterment of public education.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend
9 condolences to the family, friends, colleagues, and multitudes of former students of SUNO's
10 first chancellor, Dr. Emmett W. Bashful, with a simple and sincere reminder that above all,
11 "He gave you wings."

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his
13 daughter, Cornell Morgan.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Susan P. Montague.

DIGEST

Broome

SCR No.

Expresses condolences upon the passing of Dr. Emmett W. Bashful, former chancellor of Southern University at New Orleans.