

Regular Session, 2010

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 99

BY SENATOR MCPHERSON

HEALTH CARE. Expresses support for consolidation of inpatient and outpatient services at Huey P. Long Medical Center to create a sustainable and economically feasible model, and requests the governor, LSU and DHH, to take all actions necessary to streamline services and create a fiscally responsible, viable public medical center in central Louisiana.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express support for consolidation of inpatient and outpatient services at Huey P. Long  
3 Medical Center to create a sustainable and economically feasible model, and to urge  
4 and request the governor, the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors and  
5 the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals to take all actions necessary  
6 to streamline services and create a fiscally responsible, viable public medical center  
7 in central Louisiana capable of continuing its integral role in health workforce  
8 training and delivery of high quality direct patient care.

9 WHEREAS, the Huey P. Long Medical Center provides important services vital to  
10 the health of many residents living in central Louisiana as well as serving as a referral  
11 facility; and

12 WHEREAS, the Huey P. Long Medical Center has a long and distinguished history  
13 as an excellent training facility for many medical residents, nurses and allied health  
14 professionals preparing them eventually to practice in the underserved rural parishes of  
15 central Louisiana; and

16 WHEREAS, the Huey P. Long Medical Center includes a sixty bed acute care  
17 hospital that had two thousand three hundred thirteen adult and pediatric admissions, four  
18 hundred fifty-four psychiatric admissions and thirty six thousand five hundred sixty-four in

1 the England Air Force Base and utilizing that and other property, and all assistance available  
2 from the federal government and all other sources, to replace and enhance the economic  
3 benefits generated by the former air base with diversified activities, including health care;  
4 and

5 WHEREAS, the England Economic and Industrial Development District desires to  
6 renovate the building currently leased by LSU for clinic purposes as appropriate to create  
7 a full service in-patient hospital that will replace the outdated Huey P. Long Medical Center  
8 in Pineville as well as to renovate a building across the street from the hospital to serve LSU  
9 outpatient services needs; and

10 WHEREAS, by consolidation into one location and renovation, the England Airpark  
11 hospital would allow LSU to offer patients private and semi-private rooms instead of three  
12 to five bed wards, thereby enhancing patient confidentiality and privacy and improving  
13 patient access to care with all services on one campus; and

14 WHEREAS, eliminating duplicate departments resulting in staff reductions,  
15 improving bed utilization, reducing maintenance expenditures that continue to increase in  
16 an antiquated building, and eliminating cost of maintaining two campuses would provide the  
17 revenue stream necessary for LSU to make lease payments for the proposed facilities; and

18 WHEREAS, LSU could improve efficiencies and patient safety by eliminating staff  
19 time lost in commuting between two campuses, improving patient flow within the facility,  
20 improving environmental controls and improving security; and

21 WHEREAS, consolidating services at the England Airpark would improve LSU's  
22 ability to recruit and retain needed physicians and other related staff in a medically  
23 underserved region and provide a modern facility to meet the stringent requirements for  
24 medical education; and

25 WHEREAS, locating the Huey P. Long Hospital at the England Airpark would  
26 complement the state's emergency response capability by having a facility that can provide  
27 medical surge needs for statewide evacuees by locating near an airstrip capable of landing  
28 C-130 military transport planes and in close proximity to the new statewide Critical  
29 Transportation Need and Medical Special Needs Shelter.

30 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana

1 does hereby express support for consolidation of inpatient and outpatient services at Huey  
2 P. Long Medical Center to create a sustainable and economically feasible model, and to urge  
3 and request the governor, the Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors and the  
4 secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, to take all actions necessary to  
5 streamline services and create a fiscally responsible, viable public medical center in central  
6 Louisiana capable of continuing its integral role in health workforce training and delivery  
7 of high quality direct patient care.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
9 governor, the secretary of the Department of Health and Hospitals, and the chairman of the  
10 Louisiana State University Board of Supervisors.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Greg Waddell.

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DIGEST

McPherson

SR No.

Expresses support for consolidation of inpatient and outpatient services at Huey P. Long Medical Center to create a sustainable and economically feasible model, and requests the governor, LSU and DHH, to take all actions necessary to streamline services and create a fiscally responsible, viable public medical center in central Louisiana capable of continuing its integral role in health workforce training and delivery of high quality direct patient care.