

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

Claiborne Building • 1201 North Third Street, Suite 7-300 • Baton Rouge, LA 70802 • 225-342-6950 • Fax 225-342-6473

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PRESIDENTS' INITIATIVE TO IMPROVE RETENTION AND GRADUATION RATES

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**College
Begins
In
Preschool**

A Resolution

WHEREAS, based on current economic and demographic trends, by 2020 the nation will need as many as 14 million more workers with some college education than its education systems will have produced, and

WHEREAS, The Education Trust, a national education policy organization, recently called attention to the need to improve graduation rates at U.S. colleges and universities, and


WHEREAS, only 18 percent of Louisiana residents hold a bachelor's degree or higher, and

WHEREAS, the University of Louisiana System graduation rate is 35 percent, four percent below the state average and 19 percent below the national average, and


WHEREAS, expanding college access among African Americans, Hispanics and non-Hispanic whites could narrow income differences and add as much as \$5 billion to Louisiana's income.

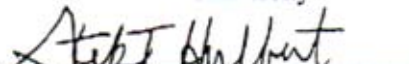
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the presidents of University of Louisiana System universities agree their institutions shall exceed the national graduation rate by the year 2012.

Signed this day, August 26, 2004

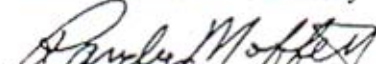

Dr. Horace Judson, President
Grambling State University



Dr. Daniel Reneau, President
Louisiana Tech University

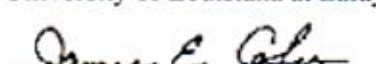

Dr. Robert Hebert, President
McNeese State University



Dr. Stephen Hulbert, President
Nicholls State University


Dr. Randall Webb, President
Northwestern State University


Dr. Randy Moffett, President
Southeastern Louisiana University


Dr. Key Authement, President
University of Louisiana at Lafayette


Dr. James Cofer, President
University of Louisiana at Monroe


Dr. Sally Clausen, President
University of Louisiana System

Grambling State University, Louisiana Tech University, McNeese State University, Nicholls State University,
Northwestern State University, Southeastern Louisiana University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, University of Louisiana at Monroe

Under the supervision of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System