

2016 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 79

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

COMMENDATIONS. Commends D.C. Machen Jr. on his many accomplishments in public education and on his retirement from the Bossier Parish School Board.

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend D. C. Machen Jr., superintendent of schools for the Bossier Parish School Board, for his many contributions to public education, for numerous improvements in classroom instruction and efficiency, and for forty-two years of invaluable public service in the teaching profession.

WHEREAS, it is with great pride that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana, recognize D. C. Machen Jr. as an outstanding teacher, principal, and administrator and congratulate him upon his pending retirement from the Bossier Parish school system in July, 2016; and

WHEREAS, D. C. Machen has worked tirelessly for the benefit of public school education by improvements in classroom experiences, with application of new technologies and critical thinking skills, and the furtherance of STEM curricula that includes advanced pursuits in science, engineering, and mathematics; and

WHEREAS, these academic benchmarks were achieved, in part, with new approaches to classroom instruction which allow for more concentrated instruction time and study with fewer interruptions; and

WHEREAS, D. C. Machen believes that a partnership exists between academics and leadership development and that energies expended toward leadership training for students,

1 parents, faculty, and administrators reaps the greatest rewards; and

2 WHEREAS, under his tutelage, scholastic achievement has been augmented with  
3 character education and a community service initiative, "Helping Hearts: The Power of We";  
4 this service project exposes the student to a high level of personal commitment to the  
5 community and contributes positively to the fulfillment of a well-appointed individual; and

6 WHEREAS, his odyssey in education began in 1974, when D. C. obtained a Bachelor  
7 of Arts in Elementary Education from Northeast Louisiana University, now known as  
8 University of Louisiana at Monroe; and he would later garner a master's degree in  
9 Educational Administration from Louisiana State University; and

10 WHEREAS, his teaching career originated at Plantation Park Elementary where he  
11 taught science and social studies and coached athletics, then he later coached football,  
12 basketball, and track at his alma mater, Rusheon Junior High School; and

13 WHEREAS, his ascent in leadership began as administrative assistant and later  
14 principal at Greenacres Junior High, then principal of Airline High School; in 1999, he was  
15 named assistant superintendent of administration and personnel at the board and in 2009,  
16 was promoted to superintendent of schools in Bossier Parish; and

17 WHEREAS, D. C. Machen was instrumental in the development of the Long Range  
18 Planning Committee, a task force assembled to study student overcrowding and provide  
19 effective utilization of school facilities; those efforts brought about the passage of two  
20 separate bond elections that approved nearly \$300 million in new construction, repairs, and  
21 improvements to school properties; and

22 WHEREAS, D. C. was well known for his application of enhanced educational  
23 technologies that included mentoring programs in junior high, successful administration of  
24 Prospective Administrator Leadership Seminars (PALS), a program to better prepare future  
25 leaders for positions in the school administrations; implementation of the parish-wide  
26 Positive Behavior Support Program, and establishment of the Over-age Eighth Grade  
27 Program at Butler Educational Complex; and

28 WHEREAS, he has been honored with numerous awards and recognitions that  
29 include being named Outstanding Young Educator by the Bossier Jaycees and selection as  
30 Bossier Parish High School Principal of the Year in 1997 and 1999; and

