

**RESOLUTION OF RECOGNITION AND APPRECIATION TO  
RETIRING SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT-CHANCELLOR  
DR. RAY BELTON**

**WHEREAS**, Caddo Parish native, Dr. Ray L. Belton, President-Chancellor of the Southern University System since 2015, the nation's only Historically Black College and University System, and previous Chancellor of Southern University Shreveport (SUSLA) since 2000 has been a visionary leader in higher education for more than 27 years; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Ray L. Belton, during his 14-year tenure as Chancellor of the Shreveport campus, led the university's unprecedented growth resulting in an enrollment increase of over 156 percent, and acquired more than \$34 million to support capital improvements including academic structures, student centers, and the first-time development of student apartments at the institution; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Ray L. Belton is known throughout the region and nation as an exemplary leader in higher education, having held several national leadership positions including serving on the Board of Trustees of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (COC-SACS), as a Commissioner on Diversity and Inclusion for the American Association of Community Colleges, and the National Advisory Board of Community Renewal International; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Ray L. Belton's service to higher education has made a visible statewide impact including serving in senior leadership roles with the Consortium for Education, Research and Technology (CERT), Biomedical Research Foundation, Alliance for Education, and Coordinating & Development Corporation of Northwest Louisiana; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Ray L. Belton has been recognized for his commitment and service to education having received numerous awards including the "Leader of the New Century" from the Shreveport Times, the "Distinguished Achievement Award" from Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., the "Thurgood Marshall Community Service Award" sponsored by the Black Lawyers Association, and the "2001 Distinguished Graduate" from the University of Texas at Austin, Community College Leadership Program; and

**WHEREAS**, with steadfast dedication and vision, Dr. Ray L. Belton has worked diligently for nearly three decades to ensure that the higher education interests and opportunities for constituents throughout the region are representative of the rich and diverse citizenry of our parish and state.

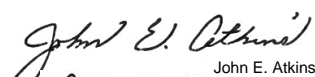
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Caddo Parish Commission that it does hereby express its deep and sincere appreciation to Dr. Ray Belton for the invaluable contributions rendered on behalf of his service and declare, June 24, 2022 as:


**'DR. RAY BELTON DAY'**


in Caddo Parish, Louisiana and the Caddo Commission joins Parish Administrator Dr. Woodrow Wilson in celebrating Dr. Ray Belton and invites all Caddo Citizens to participate in the celebration by encouraging others to better themselves through education and the practice of setting and reaching new goals. We pray Dr. Belton's days ahead provide bountiful opportunities for him to enjoy a life well lived.


**ATTEST:**


  
Jeff Everson  
Commission Clerk


  
John E. Atkins  
President


  
John Paul Young  
Parliamentarian

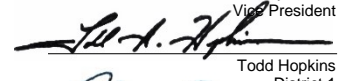
  
Lyndon B. Johnson  
District 2

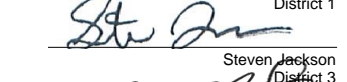
  
Steffon Jones  
District 6


  
Jim Taliaferro  
District 8


  
Ed Lazarus  
District 11


  
Roy Burrell  
Vice President

  
Todd Hopkins  
District 1

  
Steven Jackson  
District 3

  
Stormy Gage-Watts  
District 7

  
Mario Chavez  
District 10

  
Kenneth Epperson, Sr.  
District 12