

1 HR68
2 198374-1
3 By Representative Grimsley
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 02-APR-19

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8 COMMENDING DR. RONALD S. ROCHON ON THE OCCASION OF
9 HIS INAUGURATION AS THE FOURTH PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
10 SOUTHERN INDIANA.

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12 WHEREAS, highest commendations are herein conveyed
13 to Dr. Ronald S. Rochon in recognition of his inauguration as
14 the fourth president of Southern Indiana University on April
15 5, 2019; and

16 WHEREAS, the ceremony, with a theme of "Building
17 Community by Celebrating Diversity, Engagement, and Service,"
18 will highlight the University's impact on students and alumni,
19 as well as the local and global communities; and

20 WHEREAS, born and reared on Chicago's south side,
21 Dr. Rochon is no stranger to the University of Southern
22 Indiana, having spent eight years as its provost before being
23 selected from a national search of more than 90 candidates to
24 lead the University into the future; he has loved the campus,
25 its students, faculty and staff from the moment he arrived in
26 2010, leaving a position as inaugural dean of the School of
27 Education at Buffalo State College in Buffalo, New York; and

1 WHEREAS, his academic credentials include the
2 Bachelor Degree in Animal Science from Tuskegee University in
3 Alabama, Master's Degree with a concentration in reproductive
4 physiology from the University of Illinois, and Doctorate in
5 Educational Policy Studies from the University of Illinois at
6 Urbana-Champaign, Illinois; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Rochon's many honors and awards include
8 Ronald McNair Scholarship Mentor Award, City of Buffalo
9 Executive Chambers Black History Month "Change Maker" Award,
10 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign College of
11 Education Distinguished Alumni Award, and Texas A and M
12 Exploring Leadership Opportunities and Rewards in Education
13 Faculty Recognition; and

14 WHEREAS, through his life experiences and extensive
15 international travels, Dr. Rochon understands that people, at
16 their core, share common values that bind rather than separate
17 and segregate; "This is part of my calling as an educator and
18 administrator, to help facilitate amazing discussions about
19 our common-core values, about our common objectives, our
20 common goodness, our common desire to serve this special
21 community"; and

22 WHEREAS, partnering is a key component to Dr.
23 Rochon's presidency, forging connections and collaborations
24 that realize the needs of both community individuals and
25 businesses, as the University of Southern Indiana has done
26 since its inception in 1965; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Rochon and his wife of 25 years, Lynn,
2 are the proud parents of two children, Ayinde and Nia; now
3 therefore,

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
5 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That Dr. Ronald S. Rochon is
6 honored and commended in recognition of his inauguration as
7 the fourth president of the University of Southern Indiana,
8 and this resolution is offered to him as evidence of the
9 admiration and esteem of the citizens of the State of Alabama.