

1 to further advance the state and nation's ever-changing workforce and professional needs,
2 the university offers master's degree programs that blend traditional academic disciplines
3 which facilitate inquiry and discovery in today's interconnected world; and

4 WHEREAS, the administration and faculty of LSUS work closely with multi-parish
5 groups and business and industry in providing insights and analysis from significant
6 university assets such as the Center for Business and Economic Research; Red River Public
7 Radio; the LSUS Red River Watershed Management Institute; the two hundred thousand-
8 volume Noel Collection, a world-class resource for scholars; and the professional
9 development schools, which offer educational outreach in partnership with area schools; and

10 WHEREAS, LSUS also has a close working relationship with the city of Shreveport
11 in meeting the comprehensive educational and research requirements at Barksdale Air Force
12 Base as part of the United States Defense Department's increasingly important Cyberspace
13 initiatives; and

14 WHEREAS, the demand for information technology and computer science
15 professionals in the Shreveport-Bossier metropolitan area has been vigorously increasing for
16 more than a decade, surpassing the local supply of trained personnel; and

17 WHEREAS, that demand has been exacerbated by the need for Cyber security
18 workers at Barksdale Air Force Base, including qualified university graduates at the
19 associate, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels; and

20 WHEREAS, in response to these demands, LSUS has developed in partnership with
21 and proposed funding by the city of Shreveport for the LSUS Cyber Operations Security
22 Institute to support the Cyber Command at Barksdale Air Force Base; and

23 WHEREAS, LSUS has built a bioinformatics research group in conjunction with
24 LSUHSCS that has garnered international acclaim and that LSUS has expended over six
25 million dollars in development of its Laboratory for Advanced Bioinformatics (LABI); and

26 WHEREAS, the resulting strategic alliance between LSUS, LSUHSCS, and
27 Louisiana Tech capitalizes on intellectual capital in the Ark-La-Tex region by encouraging
28 collaborations among health care professionals, scientists, researchers, faculty and students;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, pending the approval by the Board of Regents, LSUS plans to expand

1 achievements produced by these strategic alliances and collectively, with the LSUHSCS and
2 Louisiana Tech University, offer a cooperative doctoral degree in "Bioinformatics and
3 Computational Biology" supported by the one million dollar Abe Sadoff Endowed Chair in
4 Bioinformatics which was approved and funded in part by the Board of Regents.

5 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
6 urge and request the Board of Regents to take the necessary steps to approve the expanded
7 role, scope and mission to include selected doctoral degrees at Louisiana State University
8 in Shreveport, as approved by the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and
9 Agricultural and Mechanical College for the Board of Regents Master Plan, 2008.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
11 Commissioner of Higher Education, the chairman of the Board of Regents, and the chairman
12 of the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical
13 College, and the chancellor of Louisiana State University in Shreveport.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Sherri H. Breaux.

DIGEST

Cheek

SCR No.

Requests the Board of Regents to approve the expanded role, scope and mission to include
selected doctoral degrees at LSU-Shreveport.