

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 218

BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED WILLIAMS

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center on a tradition of providing expert burn care for all ages.

WHEREAS, receiving proper care after a severe burn can mean the difference between life and death and in some cases, patients who receive immediate care have a ninety-four percent survival rate; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center was established in 1970 and is one of only one hundred twenty-five specialized burn centers in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it is the first designated burn facility in Louisiana and the fourteenth such facility nationwide; and

WHEREAS, it provides burn treatment services for the entire Gulf Coast region and petrochemical corridor and is the only comprehensive and pediatric burn treatment facility in central and south Louisiana and the state of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center has received referrals from over one hundred twenty-five hospitals across Louisiana and Mississippi in the last year and treats more than two hundred zip codes across the Gulf Coast region; and

WHEREAS, more than ninety percent of all inpatient burn victims in the greater Baton Rouge area are treated annually, and the center has provided more than six thousand treatments over the last three years for those suffering from flame, scald, electrical, chemical, and other burn-related injuries; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center provides comprehensive inpatient and outpatient burn treatment and rehabilitation for adults and children, including occupational and physical therapy; and

WHEREAS, a multidisciplinary team of burn experts with over seventy years of physician experience in burn care comprise the medical professionals at the center; and

WHEREAS, research is currently being conducted on a new skin grafting treatment to assist with decreasing length of stay, hospital costs, and scarring; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center's commitment to the community extends beyond the hospital walls by offering support groups, counseling, and educational resources; and

WHEREAS, the center sends an average of twenty local pediatric burn survivors each year to the statewide summer burn camp, "I'm Still Me", and its nurses and staff volunteer to assist with coordination and staffing of the camp each year; and

WHEREAS, the camp provides an opportunity for children who have survived the physical and emotional trauma of burn injuries to interact with other survivors to aid in building self-esteem and to support emotional healing; and

WHEREAS, the Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center also hosts an annual survivor's banquet to reunite burn patients and the staff in celebration of their survivorship; and

WHEREAS, the education provided by the Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center team of experts to the public regarding burn safety, as well as its partnership with area chemical plants to enhance accident prevention and safety programs, has resulted in a dramatic decrease in chemical-related burn injuries; and

WHEREAS, the team was recently published in the *Journal of Burn Care & Research* for its clinical research with a state-of-the-art skin grafting treatment for large burns, and it has received international recognition for the critical care provided to the burn patients from the Philippines who were injured in the November 2012 oil rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the medical expertise rendered by the Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center team to victims of burn-related injuries plays a vital role in affording medical students, residents, and ancillary staff valuable clinical training in critical care, burn treatment, and rehabilitation in Louisiana, Mississippi, and across the United States.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the regional burn center in the state, the

Baton Rouge General's Regional Burn Center, on the compassionate and expert care it provides to adults and children in Baton Rouge, the Gulf Coast region, and the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the president and chief executive officer of the Baton Rouge General Medical Center, Mark F. Slyter.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES