

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 124

BY REPRESENTATIVES BURRELL, ANDERS, ARMES, BROWN, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, CARMODY, COX, DOVE, HUNTER, JEFFERSON, MIKE JOHNSON, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, REYNOLDS, SEABAUGH, AND PATRICK WILLIAMS AND SENATOR PEACOCK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request that the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission designate the new North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory building as the "Charles Rex Scott North Louisiana Forensic Sciences Center" in honor of Mr. Charles Rex Scott and his legacy of service to the people of Caddo Parish.

WHEREAS, Act No. 168 of the 1981 Regular Legislative Session created the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission to maintain and operate the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory domiciled in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, the commission and laboratory serve the north Louisiana parishes of Avoyelles, Bienville, Bossier, Caddo, Claiborne, DeSoto, Lincoln, Natchitoches, Red River, Sabine, Webster, Caldwell, Concordia, East Carroll, Franklin, Grant, Jackson, LaSalle, Madison, Morehouse, Ouachita, Rapides, Richland, Tensas, Union, Vernon, West Carroll, and Winn, for the purpose of crime detection, prevention, investigation, and other related activities in connection with criminal investigations; and

WHEREAS, on November 15, 2013, Governor Bobby Jindal and local officials marked the groundbreaking of the new North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, the facility will increase forensic support to law enforcement partners in communities across North Louisiana and allow experts to process evidence more efficiently so that crimes can be solved faster; and

WHEREAS, the state committed \$24 million in capital outlay funding to build the new crime lab; and

WHEREAS, news media have reported that the new facility will be large enough to meet the evidence analysis demand of North Louisiana and will also provide hands-on learning experience for LSU-Health forensic students, who will be able to work in the new facility and access new forensic technology. The new building will be built on property that is part of the LSU-Health Shreveport campus and will be used as a teaching facility for areas of Forensic Pathology through LSU-Health, as well as graduate studies programs in Forensic Science in its School of Allied Health; and

WHEREAS, Charles Rex Scott has served the people of Caddo Parish and the state of Louisiana as a Caddo Parish district judge for thirty years and as the Caddo Parish District Attorney for almost seven years; and

WHEREAS, Charles Rex Scott attended Northwestern State University and obtained his juris doctorate from LSU School of Law; he served as an assistant city attorney and special assistant district attorney for seven years, from 1973 until 1980; and

WHEREAS, Charles Rex Scott devoted his life to the service of law and the people of Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, Charles Rex Scott worked tirelessly for the funding of a new crime lab in Caddo Parish and was instrumental in lowering the jail population; and

WHEREAS, Charles Rex Scott served dutifully as the Chairman of the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Scott was quoted at the groundbreaking of the new crime lab facility as saying, "The North Louisiana Crime Lab has consistently maintained a high level of accreditation, and this new facility will build on our current ability to protect our children and communities and ensure justice is swiftly served. In order to maintain a healthy economy and attract safety-conscious businesses, we need to make our area as safe as possible. This new facility will help all of our law enforcement officials do just that."; and

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of Charles Rex Scott on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, at the age of sixty-seven.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request that the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission designate the new North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory building as the "Charles Rex Scott North

Louisiana Forensic Sciences Center" in honor of Mr. Charles Rex Scott and his legacy of service to the people of Caddo Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory Commission.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE