

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6076

A RESOLUTION congratulating Dr. Patricia N. Long on her retirement from Baker University.

WHEREAS, Dr. Patricia N. Long has served as the President of Baker University since July 1, 2006, and is now retiring. She was the first woman to serve as the President of Baker University and she has also been the acting executive vice chancellor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC); and

WHEREAS, Dr. Long was an administrator for 23 years at UMKC and Johnson County Community College and she taught in the Kansas City, Missouri school district for seven years. Dr. Long began her career in higher education in 1983 at Johnson County Community College, where she was promoted to assistant dean of student enrollment services and eventually to dean of student services from 1995 to 2000; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Long grew up in Wheatland, Missouri, and was the first member of her family to graduate from college; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Long holds a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from Southwest Baptist University, a master's degree in adult education from Central Missouri State University and a Ph.D. in educational policy and leadership from the University of Kansas; and

WHEREAS, Baker University first opened its doors in November 1858 in Baldwin City, Kansas, after Kansas Territorial Governor James W. Denver signed the charter establishing the university. Baker was the first university in the state of Kansas, and is named after Osmon Cleander Baker, a distinguished scholar and bishop of what is now known as the United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, Baker University is ranked number 33 among regional universities in the Midwest in the most recent U.S. News and World Report rankings; and

WHEREAS, During Dr. Long's tenure at Baker University, she worked with the university advancement staff to raise more than \$11 million for the Ivan L. Boyd Center for Collaborative Science Education, the largest capital campaign project in the university's history. She also secured more than \$1.75 million for the current renovation and addition to the Student Union; and

WHEREAS, As President, Dr. Long oversaw the development of the Quest program at the College of Arts and Sciences, Baker's new, innovative approach to general studies. She also launched Baker's Leadership Distinctive and Baker's Institute for Leadership and Positive Change by securing funding, developing curriculum and cultivating business relationships with partners; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Long was responsible for growing the MBA program at the School of Professional and Graduate Studies, ranked as the number one provider of MBAs in the Kansas City community by the Kansas City Business Journal; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Long led Baker to receive the Higher Learning Commission's top recommendation in 2011, which is a full 10 years of re-accreditation, a rarity in the higher education landscape; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Long's many contributions to Baker University will serve the university well into the future: Now, therefore,

*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas:* That we congratulate Dr. Long on her retirement from Baker University and we thank her for her years of dedication to higher education in Kansas. Educators like Dr. Long help make Kansas a great state for all its citizens, and we wish her well in her retirement.

House Resolution No. 6076 was sponsored by Representative John Wilson.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

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*Speaker of the House.*

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*Chief Clerk of the House.*