

April 19, 2016

*A Resolution supporting that state funding remain in place for the continued operation of the Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center in Houma, Louisiana.*

WHEREAS, Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center, located in Houma, Louisiana, has provided expert healthcare to the residents of DHH Region 3 which includes Assumption, Lafourche, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, and Terrebonne Parishes since 1978, and

WHEREAS, many residents of Region 3, largely indigent patients, have come to rely on the Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center staff as their primary health care provider, and

WHEREAS, the Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce has learned that the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals has indicated Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center is among several Louisiana hospitals threatened by state budget cuts, and

WHEREAS, although the extreme financial crisis of the state government is recognized, cutting these services would be catastrophic for the citizens in Region 3 who have no other means of maintaining their health, and

WHEREAS, uninsured patients would face restricted access to health care and would flood emergency rooms at local private hospitals such as Terrebonne General Medical Center and Thibodaux Regional Medical Center which are not prepared to handle such a tremendous case load, and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Ochsner Health System and Terrebonne General Medical Center assumed operation of Chabert Medical Center to keep the hospital open because of the much needed services it provides for the citizens in this region, and

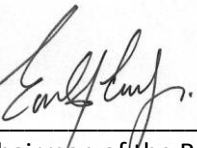
WHEREAS, in 2013, Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government provided \$2 million dollars, and Lafourche Parish Government provided \$1 million dollars to the state to keep the hospital open because of the critical need the hospital fills in serving the people of Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes as well as the whole of Region 3, and

WHEREAS, multiple Graduate Medical Education Programs including Leonard J. Chabert's Internal Medicine Residency Program, Ochsner's General Surgery, Orthopedic, and Obstetrics-Gynecology Residency programs, LSU-Ochsner Ophthalmology Residency program, LSU Family Practice and LSU Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Residency programs, as well as affiliation agreements with 21 institutions across Louisiana and around the world like Nicholls State University, L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College, University of Lafayette, LSU-New Orleans, Southern University, Medical University of America, SABA University, to provide educational opportunities for a variety of students including medical, nursing, respiratory, physicians assistants, nurse practitioners, physical therapy, anesthesiologists, EMS, dental, speech, pharmacy, medical technologists, medical assistants, and others who would be either terminated or severely harmed thus denying the Bayou Region of Louisiana needed medical professionals, and

NOW, THEREFORE BY IT RESOLVED, by the Houma-Terrebonne Chamber of Commerce, that the Honorable John Bel. Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, is respectfully requested to keep funding in place to allow Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center to remain open.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all members of Terrebonne Parish's Legislative Delegation, Dr. Rebekah Gee, Secretary of DHH, Mr. Tim Allen, Director of Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center, and Dr. Michael Garcia, Medical Director of Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center.

The Chairman declared the resolution adopted on this, the 19th day of April 2016.



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Chairman of the Board