



**LOUISIANA
LEGISLATIVE
BLACK CAUCUS**

CHAIRPERSON
REP. PATRICIA H. SMITH
Baton Rouge, District 67

VICE CHAIRPERSON
REP. HERBERT DIXON
Alexandria, District 26

FIRST VICE CHAIRPERSON
REP. GIROD JACKSON, III
Marrero, District 87

SENATE WHIP
SEN. ELBERT GUILLORY
Opelousas, District 24

SECRETARY
REP. CHARMAINE M. STIAES
New Orleans, District 99

TREASURER
REP. ELTON AUBERT
Vacherie, District 58

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
REP. ROY BURRELL
Shreveport, District 2

PARLIAMENTARIAN
REP. RICKEY HARDY
Lafayette, District 44

CHAPLAIN
REP. PATRICK WILLIAMS
Shreveport, District 4

SENATORS
SHARON W. BROOME
President Pro Tempore
Baton Rouge, District 15
YVONNE DORSEY
Baton Rouge, District 14
LYDIA P. JACKSON
Shreveport, District 39
JEAN-PAUL MORRELL
New Orleans, District 3
EDWIN MURRAY
New Orleans, District 4
KAREN C. PETERSON
New Orleans, District 5
VACANT
New Orleans, District 2

REPRESENTATIVES
AUSTIN BADON, JR.
New Orleans, District 100
REP. REGINA BARROW
Baton Rouge, District 29
JARED BROSSETT
New Orleans, District 97
A.B. FRANKLIN
Lake Charles, District 34
RICHARD GALLOT, JR.
Ruston, District 11
DALTON HONORÉ
Baton Rouge, District 63
MICHAEL JACKSON
Baton Rouge, District 61
ROSALIND D. JONES
Monroe, District 17
JUAN LaFONTA
New Orleans, District 96
BARBARA M. NORTON
Shreveport, District 3
CEDRIC RICHMOND
New Orleans, District 101
LEDRICKA J. THIERRY
Opelousas, District 40



POST OFFICE BOX 44003
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804
(225) 342-7342
FAX: (225) 342-0364
email: caucusb@legis.state.la.us
www.llbc.louisiana.gov

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:
Rep. Patricia Smith, Chairperson
Katrina R. Jackson, Executive Director
(225) 342-7342 Phone
(225) 342-0364 Fax

Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus (LLBC) Oppose Merger of Southern University at New Orleans (SUNO) AND University of New Orleans (UNO) into the University of Louisiana System) UL System

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, January 19, 2011. The Louisiana

Legislative Black Caucus is opposed to the plan as presented by Governor Jindal to merge the campuses of SUNO and UNO. The proposed merger comes shortly after the Governor appointed five (5) new members to the Board of Regents and in the same week that he is expected to appoint five (5) new members to the Southern University Board of Supervisors. The LLBC sees this as no coincidence as the Governor has continuously stacked Boards and Commissions with no diversity and to ensure that he has total control.

Normal procedures to merge or close a university is usually initiated by at least a one (1) year study, however the Governor is attempting to conduct only a month and a half study of this merger. This proposal comes with no factual basis that it will save the state money or that the

merger will serve the needs of both SUNO and UNO students. It goes without saying that a study to merge Universities should not be rushed and after a sufficient study is conducted, the state should take the less restrictive means to rectify any current problems. The LLBC sees this as the beginning of a systematic demise of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities in this state. The LLBC is willing to have constructive dialogue on the issue of Higher Education across the state and the opportunities for change.

###