

## House Resolution 1440

By: Representatives Carter of the 175<sup>th</sup>, Black of the 174<sup>th</sup>, Shaw of the 176<sup>th</sup>, and Royal of the 171<sup>st</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and commending Ronald M. Zaccari upon the occasion of his retirement from
- 2 Valdosta State University; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, Mr. Ronald M. Zaccari is the president of Valdosta State University, a regional
- 4 university of more than 11,200 students from 46 states and 63 countries, offering 56
- 5 undergraduate and 46 graduate degrees; and
- 6 WHEREAS, during President Zaccari's tenure, the enrollment has increased by more than
- 7 14 percent; and
- 8 WHEREAS, immediately upon his arrival in 2002, he launched an intensive strategic
- 9 planning process that has secured approximately \$263 million in capital construction,
- 10 including additional residence halls, two multilevel parking facilities, a student union, a
- 11 student health center, and a health sciences and business administration facility; and
- 12 WHEREAS, one of his most significant contributions to Valdosta State University is the new
- 13 Health Sciences and Business Administration facility, which is currently on the state's capital
- 14 project list; and
- 15 WHEREAS, this \$47 million facility will directly respond to the state's critical need for more
- 16 health care professionals, represent a partnership with the region's medical community, serve
- 17 as a tremendous economic impact on South Georgia, and provide the needed facilities to
- 18 increase educational opportunities for citizens of Georgia; and
- 19 WHEREAS, in 2007 he received the Governor's Award for Historic Preservation
- 20 Stewardship, presented by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources in recognition of
- 21 his significant leadership and achievement in historic preservation as it relates to state owned
- 22 or administered properties or projects; and

1 WHEREAS, he has a deep respect for every member of the faculty and staff, student,  
2 alumnus, and friend of the university, is an unfailing teacher and mentor, and he has worked  
3 tirelessly with the campus community and outside groups to move Valdosta State University  
4 to a new level of excellence and performance; and

5 WHEREAS, President Zaccari is a national leader in the field of higher education, serving  
6 on numerous state, regional, and national boards, including being a member of the American  
7 Association of State College and Universities (AASCU) board of directors and the AASCU  
8 Commission on Public University Renewal; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2005, president Zaccari was one of 35 public university presidents invited  
10 to participate with the U.S. Secretary of Education in a three-day summit focusing on  
11 mathematics and science initiatives, and he is a founding member of the Valdosta-Lowndes  
12 Partnership for Metropolitan Development, which is a coalition of 25 community leaders  
13 charged with developing a strategic vision for the Valdosta-Lowndes geographical region;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, the legacy of President Zaccari will include not just mortar and bricks, but the  
16 transformation of a campus culture that has changed lives in positive, sensitive, and lasting  
17 ways.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
19 the members of this body recognize and commend President Ronald M. Zaccari on the  
20 occasion of his retirement and his exemplary service to Valdosta State University, his  
21 community, and this state.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
23 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to President Ronald M.  
24 Zaccari.