



LOUISIANA SENATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SEN. BARROW TO DISCUSS IMPACT OF 2016 FLOOD
ON WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN SE LOUISIANA
AT ESSENCE FESTIVAL EVENT**

**PANEL DISCUSSION
ON "WOMEN & CHILDREN: HOW DISASTERS AFFECT THEM"
SET FOR SATURDAY, JULY 1ST IN NEW ORLEANS**

District 15 State Senator Regina Barrow (D-Baton Rouge) will join Governor Edwards' Director of Women's Policy Dr. Shanta Proctor and Department of Children and Family Services Deputy Secretary Terri Ricks in a special panel discussion on the impact of the 2016 flood on women and children in Southeast Louisiana. The discussion, moderated by Essence Magazine Editor-in-Chief Vanessa De Luca, is part of the Essence Festival Empowerment Experience.

As chair of the Senate Select Committee on Women and Children, Sen. Barrow held a special meeting earlier this year aimed at getting a better understanding of the on-going impact of the flood and its aftermath on children and families. "It is clear that we are still very much in recovery mode across the flood-impacted areas of our state," Sen. Barrow said. "We have to continue to make sure that we are providing flood victims with the support they need to not only rebuild their homes, but also rebuild their lives."

In addition to the panel discussion, Sen. Barrow is partnering with entertainer Mary J. Blige and Essence Festival organizers to provide three deserving flood victims from the Baton Rouge area with a special weekend in New Orleans. The three mothers will attend the festivities and be recognized during special events at Essence Festival as part of an effort to raise awareness about the continuing need for support and assistance for Louisiana flood victims.

**ESSENCE FESTIVAL EMPOWERMENT EXPERIENCE
WOMEN & CHILDREN: HOW DISASTERS AFFECT THEM
SATURDAY, JULY 1, 2017
1:10 – 1:25 P.M.
GREAT HALL
ERNEST N. MORIAL CONVENTION CENTER
900 CONVENTION CENTER BLVD. - NEW ORELANDS**

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