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### **SENATOR JOHNS DELIVERS COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AT ULM'S FALL CEREMONY**



District 27 Louisiana State Senator Ronnie Johns (R-Lake Charles) delivered a commencement address to 704 students from the University of Monroe's fall 2016 graduating class on Saturday, December 10 in ULM's Fant-Ewing Coliseum.

Senator Johns, a 1972 graduate of ULM's (formerly Northeast Louisiana University) School of Pharmacy, spoke to the graduates about the importance of continuing to acquire new knowledge, the inevitability of adversity in life, integrity and believing in one's self.

"It is your duty to not only continue developing the ideas and principles you learned in these halls but to acquire new knowledge and to use that knowledge to shape your future," remarked Sen. Johns. "Use every opportunity to share what you know and to listen to others, even if they have a different perspective than you do."

"Go for it! Reach for your dreams! Do not let fear of mistake disguised as sensibility dictate the terms of your life. If there is something you want in this life, the only person to make that happen for you, is you," added Senator Johns.

Senator Johns practiced retail pharmacy for 10 years in his hometown of Bunkie, La. after graduating from the School of Pharmacy. In 1982, he made a career change and was appointed as an agent with State Farm Insurance Co. in Sulphur, La. where he currently lives and manages his agency.

The Senator has represented District 27 in the Louisiana State Senate since 2012. Previously, he served in the Louisiana House of Representatives from 1996 until 2008. He has devoted his legislative career to many business-related issues, health care issues, is a strong advocate for domestic violence victims, for adoption and foster care of children, and victims of human trafficking. He is married to the former Michelle Servat of Rayne, La. and they have one child, Claire, married to Alex Broussard, and two grandsons, Lawston and Locke.



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