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## **Commissioner Travels to D.C. with Student Body Presidents**

BATON ROUGE, La. –Commissioner of Higher Education Jim Purcell traveled to Washington D.C. with members of the Council of Student Body Presidents (COSBP) this week. The trip to the nation’s capitol gives student leaders a chance to meet with Louisiana’s Congressional delegation and discuss issues facing college students.

“The COSBP students are some of the best and brightest students Louisiana has to offer. It is an honor to travel with them to D.C. and immerse ourselves in politics and government,” said Commissioner Purcell. “I have no doubt that many of these young people will be leading our state and our nation in the future, so having the chance to experience in-person learning with them is quite exciting.”

In addition to meeting individually with Congressmen, those attending the trip got a chance to sit in on House and Senate committee hearings, tour the White House, visit the Library of Congress and participate in other sight-seeing opportunities.

“We have been blessed with a very unique and a once in a lifetime opportunity to represent our individual universities and all of higher education in the state of Louisiana,” said COSBP Vice-Chair Clint Carlisle from Louisiana Tech University. “The legislators from Louisiana without question know how important higher education is for our state, and as Presidents of our respective institutions, we will hold them to their pledges to protect and improve the value and quality of higher education in Louisiana.”

“This trip has been an amazing opportunity for all of us to represent our schools and most importantly our students,” said Board of Regents Student Board Member John Mineo from the University of New Orleans. “It is truly inspiring to meet these leaders and hear the great commitment they each have to higher education in our state and across our great nation. It has been an honor to meet these great representatives and to have the chance to make sure the voices of our students are heard by every level of representation.”

Louisiana’s student body presidents have been in Washington since Monday and will return home Thursday. Pictures from the trip are available upon request.

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