

T CONVERSATIONS

A little extra praise for our north La. legislators

In some ways, criticizing the legislature has become a cottage industry in our state. Instead of being critical, this letter is written to express thanks to the group of North Louisiana legislators who worked together to pass an amendment to HB1 that makes our medical school a priority in the state budget.

We should all thank Alan Seabaugh from Shreveport, Henry Burns from Bossier City, Bubba Chaney from Rayville, and Frank Hoffman from West Monroe for sponsoring this amendment to the budget. We also should thank those that worked the floor of the legislature to persuade their colleagues to support the amendment. We thank Richard Burford, Roy Burrell, Thomas Carmody, Mike Johnson, Jim Morris, and Barbara Norton from Shreveport-Bossier; Gene Reynolds from Minden; Patrick Jefferson from Homer; Kenny Cox from Natchitoches; Rob Shadoin from Ruston; Jim Fannin from Jonesboro; and Katrina Jackson and Jay Morris from Monroe.

HB1 still has to make its way through the Senate and gain the signature of Governor Bobby Jindal. Our hope is that these policymakers will agree with the House and make financial support for our medical school in North Louisiana a priority.

— DR. PHILLIP A. ROZEMAN

Shreveport