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FuturePAC Endorses East Baton Rouge Parish School Board Candidates

BATON ROUGE, La. (September 13, 2006) – FuturePAC, the Political Action Committee (PAC) of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber (BRAC), announced today its endorsement of seven candidates for the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board.

The candidates receiving FuturePAC’s endorsement are:

- District 1: Derrick Spell
- District 2: Harold Williams
- District 5: Clarence Thornton
- District 6: Patricia Haynes Smith
- District 7: Noel Hammatt
- District 10: Jill Dyason
- District 11: Jay Devall

FuturePAC believes that these candidates offer East Baton Rouge Parish residents leadership strength, a commitment to increasing the achievement levels of all students, and a willingness to embrace change, all of which are critically important to improving student achievement in the East Baton Rouge Parish School System. FuturePAC’s decision to support these candidates was based on their responses to a BRAC questionnaire on public education and individual interviews.

BRAC President and CEO Stephen Moret stated, “We know that high quality public education is critically important to workforce development and is a fundamental driver of economic prosperity. In addition, public education is an important factor in our ability to recruit and retain businesses in the Baton Rouge area. We believe that strong leadership by school boards is necessary to advance our region’s public schools to be competitive both in Louisiana and around the nation.”

In future school board elections, FuturePAC anticipates making endorsements in all parishes in the Baton Rouge metropolitan area. Decisions on endorsements outside EBR will be influenced by parish-level interview committees including representation from each respective parish.

The 11 public school districts in the Capital Region will each hold school board elections on September 30. Information about the candidates for each district is available on www.brac.org.

About FuturePAC

FuturePAC, the Political Action Committee of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber, supports issues and candidates that promote economic development in the Baton Rouge metropolitan area.

About the Baton Rouge Area Chamber

The Baton Rouge Area Chamber leads economic development in the Baton Rouge metropolitan area. Serving as the voice of the business community, BRAC’s membership includes more than 1,500 organizations whose employees represent over a third of the Capital Region workforce.

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