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BRIEFING BOOK

News and views from the Louisiana Capitol

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Closing the book

Award-winning researcher Ty Keller, the author of many reports dealing with state and local governmental issues, will retire from the Public Affairs Research Council July 31 after 35 years. Keller, who holds the title senior research associate, is PAR's longest-serving employee and "leaves behind the legacy of thorough, accurate and nonpartisan research to be continued by PAR's remaining research staff," said Jim Brandt, the organization's president. Keller has shared his research with lawmakers' policy works in state government and frequently monitored legislative committees that dealt with issues he researched. He joined PAR as a researcher and has "authored or directed research for dozens of publications dealing with a wide variety" of issues, Brandt said. Keller's studies on economic development, comparative taxes and community colleges received awards for distinguished research and special achievement from the national Governmental Research Association, Brandt said. Staff researcher Jennifer Pike, who spent time working with Keller as an intern and research analyst, will be named research director, he said.