



## **News Alert: Brandt stepping down as head of PAR**

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Jim Brandt is retiring as head of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana after 11 years of heading the good-government group. Brandt says he plans to step down at the end of the year. Brandt, 63, who took over as president of the group in 1999, is the second-longest-serving head in PAR's 60-year history. During his tenure, he helped the organization develop a \$3 million permanent endowment fund for research. "The challenges Louisiana faces are diverse and complex, and PAR continues to play an important role in defining and disseminating solution-focused research. I am honored to have been part of it," says Brandt. Brandt came to PAR after 12 years as president and CEO of the Bureau of Governmental Research in New Orleans. LSU Economist Jim Richardson will chair a transition committee to find Brandt's replacement. Plans are to name a new president by the end of the year.