

Newsmakers: August 1, 2010

Published: Sunday, August 1, 2010 at 6:01 a.m.

Last Modified: Saturday, July 31, 2010 at 10:06 p.m.

Head of watchdog group retires

HOUMA — Jim Brandt, president of the Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana, will step down from his post at the end of the year, the watchdog group said this week.

He's retiring after 11 years at PAR and more than 40 in government work.

“PAR has given me the privilege of working with many talented and dynamic professionals, including staff members, board members and supporters of PAR as well as others in the statewide public policy community,” Brandt said. “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.”

The group's board has formed a search committee to find a replacement, led by James Richardson, former PAR Board chairman and director of LSU's Public Administration Institute. A hire is expected by the end of the year, and applications are being accepted through Aug. 23. For information, visit www.la-par.org.