

2016 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 49

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT JOHNSON

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of former state representative Raymond Julian Laborde.

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Louisiana House of Representatives learned of the death of former state representative Raymond Julian Laborde of Marksville on Sunday, January 17, 2016, at the age of eighty-eight; and

WHEREAS, with the death of former state representative Raymond Julian Laborde, Louisiana has lost a notable figure in the history of the Louisiana Legislature; and

WHEREAS, born on August 18, 1927, to Dr. Emeric and Minnie Laborde, Mr. Laborde attended Marksville High School; after high school graduation, he enrolled at Loyola University in New Orleans, where at the age of eighteen he played on the 1945-1946 Loyola University national championship basketball team; and

WHEREAS, in 1949, he graduated from Loyola University and soon after opened his own department store in Marksville, Raymond's Department Store, which he owned and operated for sixty-three years; and

WHEREAS, he served honorably in the Louisiana National Guard for twenty-five years and ultimately retired having attained the rank of captain; and

WHEREAS, in 1951, Mr. Laborde married the former Nellie Sanchez; and

WHEREAS, he served as the mayor of Marksville from 1958 until 1970 and served as president of the Louisiana Municipal Association from 1962-1963; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Laborde also served the citizens of Avoyelles Parish as a state representative for five terms, from 1972 until 1992; he was a gubernatorial floor leader, Speaker Pro Tempore from 1982 until 1984, and in his last term, he served as the chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means; and

WHEREAS, during his time in the House of Representatives, Representative Laborde worked on and supported many important pieces of legislation; and

WHEREAS, for four years, Mr. Laborde served as the commissioner of administration under his lifelong friend, former Governor Edwin Edwards; and

WHEREAS, in 1978, he was named Avoyellean of the Year, and in 2003, he was inducted into the Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame in Winnfield; he also enjoyed being an active member of the St. Joseph Church Council, a past Jaycee President, and a past member and president of the Chamber of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Laborde is survived by his wife of sixty-four years, Nellie Sanchez Laborde; his children, Minnie Laborde Lafargue, Donald Andrew Laborde, Charles Anthony Laborde, Ray Julian Laborde, and Rachel Laborde Voinche and their spouses; his grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and his brother, Dr. Elmo Laborde; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Laborde will forever be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, friend, and public servant who loved his community and treasured his family; and

WHEREAS, the death of Raymond Julian Laborde has left a great void and created a genuine sense of sorrow in all who knew him, including the members of his legislative family.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of former state representative Raymond Julian Laborde; does hereby record for posterity the enduring appreciation of the citizens of Louisiana for his outstanding contributions and achievements, particularly during his tenure as a distinguished member of the Louisiana House of Representatives; and does hereby recognize that his life was well spent in service to his country, his community, and his state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Raymond Julian Laborde.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES