

2017 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 150

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences on the death of Shirley Slaughter Young.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3 death of Shirley Slaughter Young.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana
5 learned of the death of Shirley Slaughter Young on May 8, 2017; and

6 WHEREAS, Shirley Slaughter Young was born in Patoutville, Louisiana, to
7 Cornelius Slaughter Sr. and Ellen Alexander Slaughter, and she was the youngest of seven
8 children; and

9 WHEREAS, she attended Patoutville Elementary School and graduated from
10 Jeanerette Colored High School in 1953, and at the age of sixteen enrolled at Grambling
11 State University and completed her studies in 1956, earning a bachelor's degree in education
12 in only three years; and

13 WHEREAS, at the age of nineteen, Shirley Young began a lifelong career in the field
14 of education, obtained her master's degree from Southern University in 1967, and completed
15 graduate work beyond the master's level at the University of Southwestern Louisiana; and

16 WHEREAS, she began her teaching career in Iberia Parish at Lee Street Elementary
17 and later at Grand Marais Elementary, and upon moving to Lafayette, she advanced her
18 career with the Lafayette Parish School System teaching first grade at St. Antoine

1 Elementary School in the early 1970s during the initial days of school integration; and

2 WHEREAS, Shirley Young, along with several other African-American teachers,
3 was mandated to transfer to schools on the South side of Lafayette to integrate the school
4 system, and she transferred to Edgar Martin Middle School where she remained until her
5 retirement in 1987; and

6 WHEREAS, at Edgar Martin Middle School she became a role model to the newly
7 integrated African-American students as well as students of all races, and it was there that
8 she created lifelong friendships with her administrators and coworkers; and

9 WHEREAS, upon her retirement from the Lafayette Parish School System, she
10 taught for a short time at Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School, but her love for Holy
11 Family Catholic School led her to take a position there that afforded her the opportunity to
12 serve in various capacities including classroom teacher, assistant principal, and curriculum
13 coordinator for twenty years until her retirement; and

14 WHEREAS, Shirley Young's entire professional teaching career, which spanned fifty
15 years, consisted of educating children in both public and Catholic school systems, a
16 professional achievement rarely seen in education today, and she has the distinct honor of
17 being the first Lafayette Education Foundation Inspirational Category winner; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1969, the Youngs and several other families helped to integrate St.
19 Anthony Catholic Church and in 1974, Mrs. Young answered the Lord's call to lead the
20 Ladies of St. Anthony Altar Society and she served as its president for over forty consecutive
21 years with humility, vigor, grace, and dedication; and

22 WHEREAS, Mrs. Young worked tirelessly to bring the women of the community
23 together in fellowship, and in 1987, had the distinct honor of being chosen to be a part of the
24 diocesan delegation that welcomed Pope John Paul II to New Orleans where she was able
25 to touch his hand and receive communion from him during Mass; and

26 WHEREAS, a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., she provided a pillar of
27 courage to countless people while serving as a "second mother" and mentor to many; and

28 WHEREAS, Mrs. Young was a woman of great strength, grace, and dignity who
29 lived a full, Christian life, always putting the Lord first in everything she did; and

30 WHEREAS, always striving for success in her endeavors and setting high standards

1 for herself, she never settled for second best and always encouraged others to put their best
2 foot forward; and

3 WHEREAS, family was very important to her and being an excellent cook, she
4 enjoyed having her family with her and welcomed visitors into her home; and

5 WHEREAS, Shirley Slaughter Young leaves to mourn her passing and cherish
6 unforgettable lifetime memories, her loving children Tammy, Gina, Gregory, and Roy Jr.;
7 her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Allison Ellen Anastasia Marcel, Rivers
8 Christopher Wayne, Princeton Joseph Cahee, Roy Joseph "Trey" Young III, Seth Michael
9 Young, Myles Hamilton Young, Gregory C. Young II, Darius L. Young, Kimberly Roberts,
10 Pasquell Webb, Shanekia Cook, Nevaeh Blue, Aaliyah Frazier, and Allinah Frazier; one
11 sister, Geneva Williams; one brother, D. J. Slaughter, and a host of nieces, nephews,
12 relatives, and dear friends; and

13 WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her parents, Cornelius and Ellen Slaughter
14 Sr.; a sister, Martha Lyle; brothers, Morris Slaughter, Irving Slaughter, and Cornelius
15 Slaughter Sr.; and one step-granddaughter Jasmine Blue; and

16 WHEREAS, the death of Shirley Slaughter Young has left a substantial void in the
17 Lafayette community and a sense of loss in the citizens whose lives she touched, and her
18 memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all those who knew and loved this
19 remarkable lady.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
21 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Shirley Slaughter
22 Young, records for posterity her outstanding achievements, and extends enduring
23 appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor that she will forever bring to the Lafayette
24 community, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26 family of Shirley Slaughter Young.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

SR 150 Original	DIGEST 2017 Regular Session	Boudreaux
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