

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences on the passing of John Melvin "Rock" Lee.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3 death of John Melvin "Rock" Lee.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana
5 learned of the death of John Melvin "Rock" Lee on February 16, 2018; and

6 WHEREAS, John Melvin Lee was the second of four children born to the union of
7 Wilton and Louversa Francois Lee on July 17, 1945, in St. Martinville, Louisiana; and

8 WHEREAS, he spent his elementary and high school years in Lake Charles,
9 Louisiana, graduating from William Oscar Boston High School in 1964; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Lee attended Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana,
11 where he played baseball on a full scholarship, and in 1969, he received his bachelor of
12 science degree in vocational education; and

13 WHEREAS, upon graduation, he signed a semi-professional baseball contract but
14 remained committed to continuing his education, and in 1978, received a master's degree in
15 administration and supervision from the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Lee worked more than thirty-five years with the Lafayette Parish
18 School Board serving as a teacher of industrial arts, math, and carpentry; and

1 WHEREAS, in addition to teaching, he excelled in his chosen career path and
2 became an assistant principal and, subsequently, principal at J. W. Faulk Elementary and
3 assistant principal at Acadian Middle School; and

4 WHEREAS, he later became the principal of L. Leo Judice Elementary School, and
5 in 2001, Mr. Lee retired from that position with more than thirty-five years of dedicated
6 service; and

7 WHEREAS, after retirement, Mr. Lee spent an additional six years as a substitute
8 principal at various schools in Lafayette Parish; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Lee was a motivated and active member in his community and his
10 church, Immaculate Heart of Mary, where he served as an usher, Eucharistic Minister for the
11 sick and homebound, and member of the Knights of Peter Claver; and

12 WHEREAS, one of his proudest accomplishments was coaching his daughters
13 throughout their teenage years in basketball and softball which resulted in both of them
14 being awarded athletic scholarships; and

15 WHEREAS, as a result of his love of sports, Mr. Lee served the community by
16 becoming an official with the Louisiana High School Athletic Association in Lafayette
17 Parish for basketball and football and was privileged to have been selected as an official for
18 several state championship games; and

19 WHEREAS, in his spare time, he was an outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing, hunting,
20 and golf; and

21 WHEREAS, he also specialized in cabinet making and, most importantly, spending
22 time with his family and friends as the life of the party; and

23 WHEREAS, John Melvin "Rock" Lee is survived by his two daughters, Nika Echols
24 and Courtney Williams; four grandchildren, Anthony Eugene Echols, Aaron John Echols,
25 Cordell "CJ" La'Michael Williams Jr., and Cynthia "Cindy" Laure Williams; three siblings,
26 Samuel Lee, Alice Hayward, and Wilton Lee; and numerous nieces and nephews; and

27 WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Wilton and Louversa Lee, as
28 well as his adoring wife of thirty-one years, Cynthia; and

29 WHEREAS, with the death of John Melvin "Rock" Lee, Louisiana has lost one of
30 its finest sons, a quintessential southern gentleman who loved his community and whose

1 accomplishments have left an indelible mark upon his community, state, and nation; and

2 WHEREAS, the death of John Melvin "Rock" Lee has left a substantial void in the
3 Lafayette community and a sense of loss in the citizens whose lives he touched, and his
4 memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all those who knew and loved this
5 remarkable gentleman.

6 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
7 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of John Melvin "Rock"
8 Lee, record for posterity his outstanding achievements, and extend enduring appreciation for
9 the tremendous pride and honor that he will forever bring to the Lafayette community, the
10 state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
12 family of John Melvin "Rock" Lee.

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

DIGEST

SR 9 Original

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