

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 45

BY SENATOR GATTI

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Matthew Burroughs.

WHEREAS, it is with a great and profound sadness that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the death of Matthew Burroughs on March 8, 2018, after a lengthy illness at the age of thirty-four; and

WHEREAS, he was born on January 12, 1984, in Bossier City, Louisiana to David and Carolyn Burroughs; and

WHEREAS, Matt was an honors graduate of Airline High School and the Louisiana Scholars' College at Northwestern State University, and he earned his Juris Doctor from the Paul M. Hebert School of Law at Louisiana State University; and

WHEREAS, he practiced law for six years working primarily with child advocacy helping children find pathways to hope in their future; and

WHEREAS, after receiving a call to the ministry in the United Methodist Church, he became a student at the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University where he was only one semester from completing his Master of Divinity; and

WHEREAS, Matt Burroughs was an exemplary and highly admired citizen of Louisiana who worked tirelessly on a multitude of business, civic, political, and religious causes throughout his short life; and

WHEREAS, Matt was blessed with many true and special friends who loved and supported him; they often said "to know Matt was to love him"; he lived a life of honor and dignity, always with a smile, a kind word, and a heart of compassion; and

WHEREAS, he was an Eagle Scout, a nationally ranked wheelchair tennis player, he taught business law at Bossier Parish Community College, volunteered at the homeless shelter, served as President of the Perkins Student Association, and was currently serving as a pastoral intern at Grace Community United Methodist Church; and

WHEREAS, two ministries Matt loved and supported were Common Ground, a food and support ministry through Grace Community United Methodist Church in Shreveport, and the Prayer Garden at Asbury United Methodist Church in Bossier City, Louisiana; caring and service to others was always Matt's focus and purpose in life; and

WHEREAS, because of his numerous accomplishments in public and private life, the death of Matthew Burroughs has left a void in his community and his state and is a tremendous loss to all his many friends and family; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young men like Matthew Burroughs who used his considerable talents and resources to serve others and who worked hard to make a difference not only for this generation but for all of our future generations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby honor the life and service of Matthew Burroughs and acknowledges his enormous contributions to the improvement of the status of his state, his city, and his community, does hereby recognize him as an extraordinary man who will long be remembered, and does hereby pay tribute to his remarkable young legacy, which will live long in the hearts of the many people whose lives he touched.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Matthew Burroughs.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE