

2018 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 181

BY SENATOR CARTER

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Wilfred Dennis Jr. of New Orleans.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3 passing of Wilfred Dennis Jr. of New Orleans, Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana has
5 learned of the passing of Wilfred Dennis Jr., noted photographer, entrepreneur, and
6 community leader; and

7 WHEREAS, Wilfred Dennis was the imaginative genius behind Dennis Photofinish,
8 Ltd., a commercial photography business founded in 1969; and

9 WHEREAS, for nearly five decades his lifelong vocation was to capture a glimpse
10 of the emotion and beauty in the lives of his illustrious clientele; and

11 WHEREAS, Wilfred Dennis had the eye of an artist and the ability to catch the
12 essence of personality, love, joy, and energy that lies within his subjects; his motto was
13 "Cherish the Moment"; and

14 WHEREAS, his creative renderings included studio sittings, school portraits,
15 weddings, senior graduate portfolios, dance recitals, proms, and other social events; and

16 WHEREAS, Wilfred Dennis also had the opportunity to photograph many famous
17 icons such as Mohammed Ali, Redd Foxx, New Orleans Mayor Ernest "Dutch" Morial, and
18 President of the United States, Barack Obama; and

1 WHEREAS, in addition to his career in photography, Wilfred Dennis had honed his
2 cooking skills at the restaurants of Court of Two Sisters and Brennan's, and he also worked
3 as an actor in movie productions; and

4 WHEREAS, a graduate of George Washington Carver High School, Mr. Dennis
5 matriculated to Delgado Community College and Southern University of New Orleans; he
6 received his credentials from the Winona School of Professional Photography located in
7 Winona Lake, Indiana; and

8 WHEREAS, he acquired the nickname of "Front Page", in recognition of the epic
9 images he produced as a photographer for the Associated Press; he was employed by the
10 Louisiana Weekly newspaper and he traveled abroad on numerous news story assignments;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Wilfred Dennis established the holiday tradition of a "Chocolate Santa"
13 for children's Christmas photos; and

14 WHEREAS, as a steward of the community that he loved, Mr. Dennis supported
15 business interests, philanthropic entities, and religious and fraternal organizations; and

16 WHEREAS, Wilfred Dennis acted as an instructor and mentor at Dillard University
17 in Upward Bound, an academic program that assists high school students in pursuit of
18 postsecondary education opportunities; and

19 WHEREAS, February 25, 2017, at the Algiers Mardi Gras parade, "Icons of the
20 Seventies", for the Krewe of NOMTOC (New Orleans Most Talked of Club), Mr. Dennis
21 reigned as King NOMTOC the XLVII along with Queen Jada Cymone Washington; and

22 WHEREAS, he was a lifelong member of the Krewe of NOMTOC and served as its
23 exclusive photographer; and

24 WHEREAS, Wilfred Dennis served his Lord as a faithful member and trustee of the
25 Pleasant Zion Missionary Baptist Church; and

26 WHEREAS, preceded in death by his parents, Irma and Wilfred Dennis Sr., he is
27 survived by his wife, Gail; siblings, Dwan D. Haydel and Craig Dennis; extended family,
28 and many friends and associates; and

29 WHEREAS, Wilfred Dennis shall be remembered for his good works as a steward
30 of the community and for the special memories he created with the thousands of beautiful

1 photographic images he captured that punctuated the important events of life.

2 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
3 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the passing of Wilfred Dennis
4 Jr., a man of extraordinary talent and vision.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does
6 hereby note his philanthropy and community service.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
8 family of Wilfred Dennis Jr.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Susan P. Montague.

	DIGEST	
SR 181 Original	2018 Regular Session	Carter
Expresses condolences upon the death of Wilfred Dennis Jr. of New Orleans.		