

2020 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 35

BY SENATOR FOIL

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of William F. "Willie" Staats.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3 death of William F. "Willie" Staats.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana
5 learned of the death of William F. "Willie" Staats on November 15, 2019; and

6 WHEREAS, William F. "Willie" Staats was born to William and Rena Staats in San
7 Antonio, Texas, in 1938; and

8 WHEREAS, he received a bachelor's degree from Texas Lutheran University where
9 he and his future wife, Esther, were homecoming king and queen; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Staats received a doctorate from the University of Texas, and after
11 receiving his Ph.D., he taught briefly at Rice University in Houston, Texas, subsequently
12 becoming vice president and corporate secretary of the Federal Reserve Bank of
13 Philadelphia, the youngest person ever at the time to hold such a position; and

14 WHEREAS, he then moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he taught for thirty
15 years at Louisiana State University (LSU), holding the position of The Hermann Moyse, Jr.
16 Distinguished Professor and Louisiana Bankers Association Chair of Banking; and

17 WHEREAS, Mr. Staats served as director of the Bankers School for Supervisory
18 Training, was a member of the faculty at the Graduate School of Banking at LSU, and a

1 member of the faculty of the LSU Executive Program, and served on the faculty of several
2 state banking schools as well as the American Bankers Association Graduate School of
3 Compliance Management; and

4 WHEREAS, he was a director of the Farm Credit Bank of Texas; cofounder and
5 chairman of the board of SevenOaks Capital Associates, LLC; and founder of two banks, the
6 New Braunfels National Bank in New Braunfels, Texas, and Lakeside Bank in Lake Charles,
7 Louisiana; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Staats was named to the board of the nation's first bridge bank by
9 the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and served on the Board of Regents of Texas
10 Lutheran University for many years; and

11 WHEREAS, as an eloquent and compelling communicator, he published many books
12 and articles and was very active on the speaking circuit, making presentations across the
13 United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Staats enjoyed voicing his opinion in a column in the *Baton Rouge*
15 *Advocate* and was an expert witness in banking cases in several states; and

16 WHEREAS, he loved spending time with his family and was passionate about his
17 volunteer work, serving over the last forty-eight years at St. Paul Lutheran Church and the
18 Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Staats served on the board of Money Management International and
20 Consumer Credit Counseling Services, nonprofit organizations which provide personal credit
21 and financial counseling and education; and

22 WHEREAS, he loved country music, managed a band in college, and worked at
23 KWED Radio in Seguin, Texas; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Staats became family-famous for his "Monkey, Mouse, and
25 Elephant" stories that he told his children every night when they were little which reflected
26 his love of animals, particularly dogs; and

27 WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving wife of fifty-nine years, Esther; his
28 children, Stephen and Kristine; and his grandchildren, Audrey and Darren Staats, and Kaylen
29 and Ryan Brzozowski; and

30 WHEREAS, the death of William F. "Willie" Staats has left a substantial void in the

