

2024 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY SENATOR FOIL

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Dr. Donald Gene Luther on the occasion of his passing.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the
3 family and friends of Dr. Donald Gene Luther upon the occasion of his passing on
4 December 4, 2023, at the age of eighty-seven; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Donald Gene Luther (Gene) was born on September 2, 1936, to Euil
6 Clifton Luther and Offie Bell Dosier Luther, on a cotton farm in Elk City, Oklahoma; and

7 WHEREAS, he proudly served in the United States Air Force as a jet engine
8 mechanic and attended Oklahoma State University, earning a Doctorate of Veterinary
9 Medicine; and

10 WHEREAS, Gene married the love of his life, Tama Wiggins, in 1958 and after
11 graduation moved to Baton Rouge, Louisiana to practice Veterinary Medicine; and

12 WHEREAS, he earned doctoral degrees in Microbiology and Biochemistry and
13 Virology from the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, served as a professor for many years
14 and culminated his tenure as a Professor Emeritus; and

15 WHEREAS, during his time at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine, he
16 developed the ground-breaking vaccine for Anaplasmosis which saved the lives of countless
17 cattle world-wide and upon retirement founded the biotechnology firm University Products
18 to produce the vaccine; and

1 WHEREAS, Gene loved LSU baseball and would always sit behind home plate
2 encouraging players and advising the umpires and coaching staff; and

3 WHEREAS, his greatest gift to his students, friends, family, and all those in need
4 was opening his home and heart and being a loving husband, father, grandfather, mentor,
5 colleague, and teacher; and

6 WHEREAS, Gene is survived by his beloved wife of sixty-five years, Tama Wiggins
7 Luther and their four children and their spouses, Euil Eugene Luther (Sherry), Donald Gene
8 Luther Jr. (Stacey), Gene Eujohn Luther (Lisa Anne), and Tama Geen Luther Keller (Jason
9 Robert), in addition to seven grandchildren, and five great grandchildren.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
11 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Dr. Donald Gene
12 Luther upon the occasion of his passing.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
14 family of Dr. Donald Gene Luther.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Emily W. Toler.

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Expresses condolences upon the passing of Dr. Donald Gene Luther.