

2024 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 175

BY SENATOR PRESSLY

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of William Jefferson Cole.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
3 upon the death of William Jefferson Cole.

4 WHEREAS, William Jefferson Cole, managing partner of the accounting firm of
5 Cole, Evans, and Peterson and trusted advisor to Willis Knighton Health System contributing
6 significantly to the growth and service of these institutions in Northwest Louisiana, passed
7 away on May 24, 2024; and

8 WHEREAS, a deeply spiritual man, the son of Robert Leslie Cole and Mattie Belle
9 Griffith Cole, Jeff was a member of Broadmoor Presbyterian Church where he taught
10 Sunday School for many years; and

11 WHEREAS, he attended Grand Cane School, was an honor student, played
12 basketball and held many jobs to assist in providing for his family from a young age
13 including working as a roughneck on oil rigs in South Louisiana; and

14 WHEREAS, after graduating from Louisiana Tech, serving as ROTC Wing
15 Commander, Jeff entered the United States Air Force, serving four years including stations
16 in France and Germany before returning to Northwest Louisiana and joining the local
17 accounting firm of Cole, Evans, and Peterson where his leadership and vision as managing
18 partner was the driving force behind the firm's growth and development; and

1 WHEREAS, in addition to his professional career, Jeff established and operated Cole
2 Farm producing high-quality cattle in the Grand Cane area for 40 years and breaking horses
3 throughout his life; he was an accomplished athlete, running twenty-five marathons,
4 including qualifying and running in the Boston Marathon; and

5 WHEREAS, an extraordinary person, loving husband, father, grandfather, and
6 brother, Jeff lived a remarkable life full of generosity, teaching, and service to others; Jeff
7 lived every day with the motto that "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above...."
8 James 1:17, and shared generously his vast spiritual, intellectual, and financial gifts with
9 countless people; and

10 WHEREAS, Jeff Cole's legacy of faith, hard work, and dedication to his community
11 leaves an indelible mark on all who knew him and his passing leaves a void that will be
12 deeply felt; and

13 WHEREAS, Jeff was preceded in death by his parents; his wife of 51 years, Marilyn
14 Charleen Miller Cole; sisters, Sue Lynn Franklin and Caroline Boyd; and brothers-in-law,
15 William J. Franklin, Roy W. Burr Sr. and Albert Grey; and

16 WHEREAS, Jeff was blessed and survived with his second wife of seven years, Lisa
17 Harbour Cole; his daughter, Anne-Marie May and husband Matt; sisters Bobbye Wilson and
18 husband, Ray, and Jan Burr; grandsons, Adam Jefferson Cain and wife, Emmie Cain, Jacob
19 John Cain and wife, Laney Cain; stepdaughters Ainsley Wilson, April Wilson Wall and
20 husband, Jonathan, Alaina Wilson Anderson and husband, Garrett; sister-in-law JoAnn
21 Miller Grey; nieces, Frances Beck and husband, Bill, Stephanie Webster and husband, Alan
22 Sosebee, Stacy Mills and husband, David, DeAnne Lachney and husband, Mike, Allison
23 Boyd, Pam Roberts, Janet Richards and husband, Tim; nephews, Roy Burr Jr. and wife,
24 Cindy, Charles Webster and wife, Nena, Les Webster and wife, Nancy, John Franklin and
25 wife, Jann, Cole Franklin and wife, Lottie; Jeff is also survived by his son-in-law's parents,
26 Robert and Mary May and their daughter, Alison; deemed grandchildren Taylor and Cole
27 Richards, Emma and Meredith Roberts, and Connor and Mary Mickelson and numerous
28 extended family and friends.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
30 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of William

1 Jefferson Cole on the occasion of his passing.

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jeff's
3 wife, Lisa Harbour Cole.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Thomas L. Tyler.

SR 175 Original

DIGEST
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