

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 257

BY REPRESENTATIVES PHELPS, BAMBURG, JACKSON, LARVADAIN,  
MELERINE, AND WALTERS

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives on the tragic loss of eight children in Shreveport, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the tragic passing, on April 19, 2026, of Layla Pugh, Kayla Pugh, Shayla Elkins, Jayla Elkins, Sariah Snow, Khedarrion Snow, Braylon Snow, and Mar'Kaydon Pugh; and

WHEREAS, Layla Pugh was a second-grade student at Linwood Public Charter School; she was a quiet girl who always strived to do the right thing; she was a friend to everyone and a constant help to her teachers and classmates; and

WHEREAS, Kayla Pugh was a first-grade student at Linwood Public Charter School; although she was a soft-spoken child, her smile spoke louder than any words; she lit up every room she entered and gave the biggest hugs when greeting her teachers and principal; and

WHEREAS, Shayla Elkins was a kindergarten student at Linwood Public Charter School; she was soft spoken, had a quiet presence, and gave warm and welcoming hugs; and

WHEREAS, Jayla Elkins was a sweet child who was only three years old; and

WHEREAS, Sariah Snow was a fourth-grade student at Summer Grove Elementary School; she was a friend to everyone she met, was not afraid of hard work, and gave her best effort in all that she did; she was always excited to learn, had the most beautiful smile, and showed kindness to students and teachers alike; and

WHEREAS, Khedarrion Snow was a kindergarten student at Summer Grove Elementary School; he was a vibrant soul with a curious mind and fearless heart and had a way of bringing a smile to anyone he met; he found joy in every moment and had a thirst for adventure and desire to learn more about the world; he brought unique energy to every circle he joined and cherished the time he spent with his friends and classmates; and

WHEREAS, Braylon Snow was a pre-kindergarten student at Johnnie Cochran Head Start Center; and

WHEREAS, Mar'Kaydon Pugh was a fourth-grade student at Linwood Public Charter School; he arrived at school with a Bible in hand each day and was passionate about his faith; he frequently read his Bible during lunch or enrichment class, and poured his heart into every hug that he gave; and

WHEREAS, although the children will be deeply missed, the memory of their spirits shall live on in the hearts and minds of those who were privileged to have known and loved them.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the loss of Layla Pugh, Kayla Pugh, Shayla Elkins, Jayla Elkins, Sariah Snow, Khedarrion Snow, Braylon Snow, and Mar'Kaydon Pugh and does hereby extend sincere wishes that their family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of these eight beautiful angels.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES