

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 269

BY REPRESENTATIVE DICKERSON

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Emilio Sylvester Tesei, Jr.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing, on April 30, 2026, of Emilio Sylvester Tesei, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Emilio Sylvester Tesei, Jr., was born on September 29, 1944, in Greenwich, Connecticut, and graduated from Greenwich High School; after high school, he enlisted in the United States Navy and served as a SeaBee in the Naval Construction Force; and

WHEREAS, after completing his military service, Mr. Tesei attended Bridgeport University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in health education; he later attended Southeastern Louisiana and earned a master's degree in health education; and

WHEREAS, Emilio married his wife, Karen, on May 31, 1969, and they shared nearly fifty-seven years of marriage together; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tesei worked as a teacher and coach for thirty-three years at numerous Louisiana schools, including Live Oak High School, Denham Springs High School, St. Paul's Catholic School, and Block High School; he cherished the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of Louisiana youth in both the classroom and on the field, and he left an indelible mark on the communities he served; and

WHEREAS, Coach Tesei possessed an appreciation for football that went beyond competition on the field; while he fueled his competitive nature through coaching, he also

used sports as a tool to help his players develop into men and learn about Christ; he coached baseball, track, powerlifting, and basketball in addition to football; and

WHEREAS, as a child, Coach Tesei was fascinated with the railroad and owned an impressive train collection, which he donated to the Red River Valley Historical Railroad Society in Shreveport; he enjoyed woodworking and was passionate about home renovation, building furniture, and making birdhouses; many of his birdhouses can be found throughout various communities in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Emilio Sylvester Tesei, Jr., is survived by his wife, Karen; daughter, Joy (Pat); grandchildren, Aaron Tesei and Danielle Tesei Polk (Drew); great-granddaughter, Merritt; brother, Nate Tesei (Ann); niece, Lisa Tesei Valenti; nephews, Stephen Tesei, Peter Tesei, and David Bavis; and a host of extended relatives and friends; he will be deeply missed, but the legacy of his faith, leadership, and love of community shall live on in the hearts and minds of those who were privileged to have known and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Emilio Sylvester Tesei, Jr.; does hereby express enduring appreciation for his impact on the lives of those he coached; and does hereby extend sincere wishes that his family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of his beautiful life.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES