

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY SENATORS JOHNS, MORRISH AND JOHN SMITH AND REPRESENTATIVES
DANAHAY, FRANKLIN, GEYMANN, GUINN, HENSGENS AND
KLECKLEY

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Dennis

C. Ware II.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of the state of Louisiana learned of the death of Mr. Dennis C. Ware II, on April 1, 2013, at the age of ninety; and

WHEREAS, Dennis C. Ware II was born on June 8, 1922, in Helbig, Texas, to Dennis C. Ware and Louvenia Scott Ware; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ware graduated as valedictorian from Second Ward Colored High School; and

WHEREAS, in 1947, he graduated from the Southwest School of Mortuary Science in Dallas, Texas; and

WHEREAS, on March 7, 1947, Dennis married Mildred Simon and six children were born of their union: Dennis C. III, Melverte Frances, Deborah Gale, Reginald Charles, Rodney Burton, and Ronald Frank; and

WHEREAS, in 1948, he obtained his bachelor's degree in biology from Wiley College, and in 1955, he earned his Master of Arts in Educational Sociology from the University of Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ware also graduated from several specialty courses and programs including: the Life Underwriters Training course in 1963; Governance of Anti-Poverty Programs at the University of Oklahoma in 1966; and Development and Operation of Neighborhood Centers at the University of Missouri in 1967; and

WHEREAS, he also studied various disciplines at Howard University, Penn State University, the University of Hawaii, and Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ware was honorably discharged from the United States Army after he served his country as the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 24th Infantry Regiment in the Western Pacific during World War II; and

WHEREAS, he began his professional career as an educator and coach in 1949 at W.O. Boston in Lake Charles, and in 1957, began working as an agent with Universal Life Insurance where he rose to the position of area supervisor; and

WHEREAS, from 1966 to 1968, Mr. Ware served as director of the Gulf Assistance Program, which was tasked with assisting underprivileged residents; and

WHEREAS, he was employed as a laborer with Manpower, Inc., and used his tireless work ethic and determination to become the Human Resources Manager before retiring in the mid-1970s; and

WHEREAS, he served as the editor and publisher of *The Southwest Sepian* and was the driving force of the civil rights movement in southwest Louisiana, working tirelessly to integrate public education, the local petrochemical industry, and public housing and accommodations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ware was the epitome of public service as a member of several organizations, which included being an active member and Past Polemarch of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., a former member of the Lake Charles City Council, co-founder and past commissioner of the Southwest Louisiana Underwriters Association, co-founder and president of the first college chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People west of the Mississippi River, a member and Past Post Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a member of both the Wiley College Alumni Association and the University of Chicago Alumni Association; and

WHEREAS, he was a man of character who, when confronted with the hatred of the old South, stood up against the Jim Crow system and fought for civil rights and justice; and

WHEREAS, Dennis C. Ware II was one of the finest public servants in the history of Louisiana and a gentleman whose dedicated and highly productive service has forever changed Louisiana for the better; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ware, who was admired by all whose lives he touched, leaves behind a rich and unique legacy and is greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, although the death of Dennis C. Ware II has left a tremendous void in his community, his memory shall live forever in the hearts and minds of all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Dennis C. Ware II, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his accomplishments and contributions, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and honor that he will forever bring to his family, friends, community, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Dennis C. Ware II.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES