

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 54

BY SENATOR WALSWORTH

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of R. L. Hargrove.

WHEREAS, it is with great sorrow and sadness that the members of the Louisiana Senate have learned of the death of R. L. Hargrove on January 27, 2014; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove was born February 25, 1932, in Columbia, Louisiana, to the late Robert Lee Hargrove and Bettie Hargrove; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove proudly served his country in the United States Navy from 1951 through 1955 attaining the rank of Petty Officer, Second Class; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove graduated with a degree in accounting in 1960 from Northeast Louisiana University in Monroe, Louisiana, and shortly thereafter received his license as a certified public accountant and became a partner in the firm of Frank and Hargrove CPAs; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove managed his own accounting firm from 1967 to 1973, where one of his audit clients was a small local exchange telephone company named Century Telephone Enterprises; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Mr. Hargrove closed his firm and went to work for the late Clarke Williams at Century Telephone as controller, and as the company began to grow, so did his responsibilities and his titles, serving as senior vice president and secretary-treasurer, and chief financial officer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove retired from Century-Tel in 1987, as executive vice president and continued to serve as a member of their board of directors until 2005 when he reached the mandatory board retirement age; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove was also very active in his community serving as one of the early directors of the Dixie Youth Baseball League in West Monroe and as an advisory director for the Salvation Army in Monroe; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove also served on numerous boards and commissions including the Boards of Scientific Communications, Inc., Frisco State Bank, and Arrant

Insurance as well as the Glenwood Regional Medical Center, the state Civil Service Commission and the Senate's appointee to the state Ethics Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove was also an active member of the JC Stewart Masonic Lodge where he was a member for forty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hargrove was extremely proud to be a CPA, and was a member of both the Louisiana Society of Certified Public Accountants and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants for almost fifty years, and until recent months he was an active and regular participant in continuing education activities and attended the regular monthly luncheons of the local CPA chapter; and

WHEREAS, a man of very strong faith, Mr. Hargrove was an active member of the First Baptist Church of West Monroe for over forty years, serving as an active deacon regularly since 1972 and in more recent years was named a lifetime deacon; and

WHEREAS, he was a loving and dedicated husband to his wife, Lila, for over fifty-six years, a devoted father to their sons, Paul and Brad, and daughter Kaye who preceded him in death, and a cherished brother, grandfather, and great-grandfather and relatives, whose love of family was of utmost importance in his life; and

WHEREAS, because of his numerous accomplishments in public and private life, the death of R. L. Hargrove has left a void in his community and in our state and has created a genuine sense of profound sorrow in his friends and family; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon people like R. L. Hargrove who dedicate their lives to making the world a better place.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana acknowledges with gratitude the outstanding service and many accomplishments of R. L. Hargrove, and extends sincere condolences to his family on the occasion of his death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of R. L. Hargrove.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE