SLS 14RS-1687 ORIGINAL

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 72

BY SENATOR THOMPSON

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere condolences upon the passing of Eddie L. Beckwith Jr., former Tallulah mayor.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3	death of Tallulah mayor Eddie Beckwith Jr.
4	WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and great sadness that the state of Louisiana and
5	its citizens have learned of the passing of Tallulah mayor Eddie Beckwith Jr., on March 27,
6	2014, at the age of sixty-four after his long and hard-fought battle with cancer; and
7	WHEREAS, at the time of his death he was serving his second term as mayor, having
8	been first elected in 2006; and
9	WHEREAS, Eddie Beckwith Jr. was a native of Tallulah, Louisiana, and was born
10	on August 10, 1949, and attended Wright Elementary School, graduated from Reuben
11	McCall High School, obtained a bachelor of arts degree from Northwestern State University
12	in Natchitoches, Louisiana, and was twelve hours away from a master's degree in human
13	resources and development at Webster University, St Louis, Missouri; and
14	WHEREAS, Mr. Beckwith also served his country in the United States Army,
15	making it a career spanning over three decades with over thirty-three years of active and
16	reserve duty military service; and
17	WHEREAS, Mr. Beckwith was a graduate of the United States Army Sergeants
18	Major Academy Resident Phase, at Ft. Bliss, Texas, and during his service, he received

1	numerous promotions, awards, accolades, honors and decorations, retiring from the United
2	States Army with the highest rank that a noncommissioned officer can achieve, a rank of
3	command sergeant major at the E-9 rank; and
4	WHEREAS, Eddie Beckwith Jr. served over twenty-one years in state government
5	with the Department of Social Services, and then returned to Tallulah as Chief Director of
6	Operations of Beckwith Golden Gate Funeral Home; and
7	WHEREAS, Mayor Beckwith was a leader and a friend, a gentleman with much
8	talent and a strong work ethic, who as mayor, had a positive motto of "Together we can";
9	and
10	WHEREAS, he is survived by his loving, devoted and dedicated wife of forty-three
11	years, Mary Louise Jones Beckwith, and their two cherished children, Michael Dwayne
12	Beckwith and Tiffany Nicole Beckwith; and
13	WHEREAS, under his leadership, the town of Tallulah experienced continued
14	growth and vitality with many accomplishments such as the improvements of streets, fire
15	protection, recreational activities, expansion of affordable quality housing developments,
16	improved public facilities, improved flood protection, and the overall quality of Tallulah;
17	and
18	WHEREAS, upon his death, the world lost a unique individual who left an indelible
19	mark upon the lives of all those who knew him in his community, in his town of Tallulah,
20	and in the state of Louisiana; and
21	WHEREAS, with the death of Mayor Eddie Beckwith Jr., the state has lost one of
22	her finest sons; a man who loved God, his family, country, state, town, community, and
23	profession; and
24	WHEREAS, Mr. Beckwith was the kind of man who represents what is good about
25	Louisiana; a man of wisdom who always used his considerable talents, integrity, loyalty, and
26	passion to change his community, town, state and country for the better; a man who
27	dedicated his life to public service to his town, state, and country, and to protecting and
28	making the world a better place to live not only for our generation but for future generations
29	as well; and
30	WHEREAS, because of his numerous accomplishments in public and private life,

the death of Eddie Beckwith Jr. has left a void in his community and has created a genuine

31

SLS 14RS-1687 ORIGINAL SCR NO. 72

sense of profound sorrow in his town, state, country, and especially for his friends and family; and

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

WHEREAS, Mayor Beckwith was a vital force in Northeast Louisiana and cared about the region and the state as a whole, his vision was one of a more prosperous and progressive future, and he was especially excited about Tallulah's potential; 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 the dedication of people like Eddie Beckwith Jr. who use their considerable talents and resources to help and serve others.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby honor the life of Eddie Beckwith Jr. and his numerous accomplishments in public and private life and extend sincere condolences to his family on the occasion of his death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted the family of Eddie Beckwith Jr.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tammy Crain Waldrop.

DIGEST

Thompson SCR No.

Expresses condolences upon the death of Eddie Beckwith Jr.