

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 84

BY SENATOR DORSEY-COLOMB

CONDOLENCES. Extends sincere condolences upon the death of Francis Grayson Jr. of Baton Rouge.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3 death of Francis Grayson Jr. of Baton Rouge.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and sadness that the passing of Francis Grayson
5 Jr. on April 18, 2014, at age fifty-three; and

6 WHEREAS, he was a native of Monroe, Louisiana, and was educated in the Monroe
7 City School System and Southern University in Baton Rouge; and

8 WHEREAS, Francis Grayson was respected and cherished by everyone with whom
9 he interacted and was an ultimate professional, community innovator, and genuinely good
10 person whose glowing personality and wit resulted in him being perfectly fit for a career in
11 hospitality; and

12 WHEREAS, as a business executive, he was also instrumental in the revitalization
13 of downtown Baton Rouge as he spent many of his days working to improve the area; and

14 WHEREAS, Francis Grayson and his business partner, Gayle Carnahan, operated a
15 hospitality company named Nu Vieux for many years in Baton Rouge; and

16 WHEREAS, Francis Grayson was a familiar smiling face at some of the city's nicest
17 hotels such as Hotel Indigo, where he worked as general manager since its opening in 2011;
18 and

1 WHEREAS, prior to Hotel Indigo, he was a major contributor to the opening of the
2 Belle of Baton Rouge and the Sheraton Hotel; and

3 WHEREAS, Francis Grayson could often be found overseeing events at the Lyceum
4 Ballroom and the Kress Building; and

5 WHEREAS, he had a very successful career in hospitality for over thirty years
6 beginning as a restaurant server; and

7 WHEREAS, Francis Grayson took pride in his work and made it his primary goal
8 to send every guest or customer away with a very positive impression of the venues that he
9 managed as he did not just meet people, but he formed lasting relationships with his
10 customers which provided him with a nationwide network; and

11 WHEREAS, he was involved in the Downtown Development District, YMCA
12 Downtown, Historic Homes Association, Louisiana Restaurant Association, Visit Baton
13 Rouge, and Hotel Owners IHG; and

14 WHEREAS, Francis Grayson is survived by his parents, Elvator M. Grayson and
15 Francis and Anita Grayson; sister, Cheron Grayson-Atunrase; brother, Frederick Grayson
16 and wife Tracey; and

17 WHEREAS, the loss of the precious soul that lived in Francis Grayson is mourned
18 by many across the country and he will be missed by all.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
20 does hereby express sincere condolences to the family and closest friends of Francis Grayson
21 Jr. upon his death.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
23 Elvator M. Grayson and Francis and Anita Grayson.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by J. Ashley Mitchell.

DIGEST

Dorsey-Colomb

SR No. 84

Expresses condolences upon the death of Francis Grayson Jr. of Baton Rouge.