

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 101

BY SENATOR NEVERS AND REPRESENTATIVE RITCHIE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Al J. Ransome for his service to the state of Louisiana and as a pioneer in the field of unemployment compensation cost control management.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana learned of the death of Al J. Ransome on Friday, March 7, 2014; and

WHEREAS, he was a native of Morganza and a resident of Baton Rouge for much of his life; and

WHEREAS, he attended Louisiana State University and was honorably discharged from the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ransome's knowledge, innovation, and entrepreneurial spirit led to the creation of a competitive nationwide industry in cost control management of unemployment compensation for employers; and

WHEREAS, in 1974, Mr. Ransome founded Unemployment Compensation Control Systems, Inc. and served as its chief executive officer until early 2003; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Mr. Ransome founded Unemployment Cost Solutions, LLC and served as its chief executive officer until his death; and

WHEREAS, he was responsible for the design, development, and implementation of an ongoing computerized management control and reporting system in the area of unemployment compensation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ransome was extremely knowledgeable in unemployment law, having worked in the unemployment compensation industry for more than forty years, and in 1986 and 1987 was asked to serve on a task force established by the governor and a task force established by the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry to address Louisiana's bankrupt unemployment trust fund; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ransome developed the concept of bonding the 1 billion dollar unemployment compensation trust fund debt, which resulted in retiring the debt seven years

early and further allowed the unemployment compensation trust fund to grow to 1.5 billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, enacting that concept into law in a 1987 Special Session of the Legislature of Louisiana became the most significant economic development legislation of the decade, according to leading Louisiana economist Dr. Timothy Ryan; and

WHEREAS, when hurricanes Katrina and Rita struck Louisiana, Mr. Ransome anticipated the effect those storms were going to have on the field of unemployment cost control for private sector and governmental employers; and

WHEREAS, he was able to bring together the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry, and the AFL-CIO to enact legislation over a period of years which allowed the unemployment compensation trust fund to absorb the unemployment compensation paid to displaced workers without Louisiana employers having to absorb any of the cost; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ransome worked together with labor and industry to pass legislation, including Acts 116 and 633 of the 2006 Regular Session of the Legislature, Act 288 of the 2007 Regular Session of the Legislature, and Act 512 of the 2008 Regular Session of the Legislature, that was equally beneficial to labor, industry, and the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ransome is survived by his loving wife, Darlene Sansone Ransome, a daughter, Stephanie "Taffy" Matheny, and three sons, Justin Paul Ransome, Dustin Mark Ransome, and Al Jerome Ransome II; seven grandchildren, John W. St. Amant II, Christopher Matheny, Breeanna Ransome, Brooke Ransome, Blair Ransome, Christin Ransome, and Cullen Ransome; and two great-grandchildren, J.W. St. Amant III and Jackson Matheny; and

WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of its communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon people like Al J. Ransome; and

WHEREAS, Al J. Ransome deserves recognition and commendation for the tremendous honor and integrity with which he served his clients, the state of Louisiana, and all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana hereby commends Al J. Ransome, who exemplified all that is good about Louisiana, and recognizes and records for posterity his long and productive career as a distinguished entrepreneur and pioneer in the field of unemployment compensation cost control management.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Al J. Ransome.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES