

2020 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences on the death of Melinda Mangham.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the  
3 death of Melinda Waller Mangham, educator.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the  
5 Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of Melinda Waller  
6 Mangham on April 30, 2020, at age seventy-nine; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Mangham was an impactful educator extraordinaire, a staunch  
8 community activist, and a woman on a mission who dedicated every day to impassioned  
9 advocacy for education, teachers, and her beloved students; and

10 WHEREAS, she taught in public and private schools across Louisiana including Lee  
11 High School, Episcopal High School, Airline High School, Glen Oaks High School, Valley  
12 Park Middle School, St. James Episcopal, St. Mark's Episcopal, Lafayette High School, and  
13 Ascension Episcopal; and

14 WHEREAS, whether you knew her as Melinda, "Mrs. M", Mrs. Mangham,  
15 Mangham, or Millie, she considered so many close friends as family; and

16 WHEREAS, her degrees, professional awards, and affiliations are numerous and  
17 impressive; Mrs. Mangham was named a White House Distinguished Teacher by two  
18 presidents, George H. Bush and, her favorite, William Jefferson Clinton; she was also named

1 an Outstanding Educator by the University of Miami, Texas A&M, MIT, and the Illinois  
2 Institute of Technology; and she was recognized as a Coca-Cola Educator of Distinction; and

3 WHEREAS, Governor John Bel Edwards appointed her to the Louisiana  
4 Commission on College and Career Readiness; and

5 WHEREAS, a proud alumnus of LSU, she served on the Advisory Counsel of LSU's  
6 Ogden Honors College and on the Executive Board of the Tiger Athletic Foundation; she  
7 also served on the University of Louisiana - Lafayette Center for Gifted Education Advisory  
8 Board; and

9 WHEREAS, Melinda was preceded in death by her husband, Michael Ray "Mickey"  
10 Mangham; her sister-in-law, Molly Mangham Douglass; her parents, Morgan Howard  
11 Waller and Elizabeth Bowen Waller; and her in-laws, Francis Ray Mangham and Louise  
12 Ratliff Mangham; and

13 WHEREAS, she is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Morgan "Liz" Mangham; her  
14 brother, The Reverend Stephen Jay Waller; her brother-in-law, George Douglass; her nieces,  
15 Molly Hadden and husband, Corky; Melissa Steiner and husband, Jerry; Michelle Tyler and  
16 husband, Doug; several great nieces and nephews; and her dear friend and caregiver, Annie  
17 Belle Shelvin; and

18 WHEREAS, Melinda Mangham was a larger than life educator who championed  
19 students and teachers with undeniable passion for decades; she brought passion to everything  
20 she did and approached every task with devotion, fierce leadership, and enthusiasm; and

21 WHEREAS, Mrs. Mangham exemplified all that is good about Louisiana through  
22 her devotion to family and friends and her excellence in the vital field of education; and

23 WHEREAS, with her death, Louisiana has lost one of her finest citizens, a woman  
24 who was loved by all whose lives she touched, who leaves behind a rich and unique legacy,  
25 and who is profoundly missed; and

26 WHEREAS, although the death of Melinda Waller Mangham has left a tremendous  
27 void in her community, her memory shall live on forever in the minds and hearts of all who  
28 knew and loved her.

29 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
30 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Melinda Waller

