

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 49

BY SENATOR MILLIGAN

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of DeSoto Parish Deputy Donna Richardson-Below.

WHEREAS, Donna Richardson was born on March 10, 1976, in Shreveport, Louisiana, to the union of Jessie and Sammie J. Foster Richardson; and

WHEREAS, on February 12, 2020, at the age of forty-three, Deputy Donna Richardson-Below transitioned to her heavenly home as a result of a tragic two-vehicle crash while on duty; and

WHEREAS, Donna Richardson was reared in a close-knit family and taught about God at an early age; and

WHEREAS, she accepted Christ as her personal Savior and was baptized at the New Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church in Arcadia, Louisiana, under the pastorate of the Rev. Norah Banks Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Donna Richardson was very active in her church with the youth department and continued to serve and be faithful to the Lord until she transitioned from her earthly life; and

WHEREAS, she graduated from Arcadia High School, attended Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, and later obtained her degree in criminal justice from the Ruston Vocational Technical College; and

WHEREAS, Donna Richardson worked as a probation and parole officer with the Louisiana Department of Corrections for sixteen years and five months; and

WHEREAS, she became a Deputy with the DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office in January 2019; and

WHEREAS, her marriage to Terry Below is described by her friends as a "love at first sight" romance; and

WHEREAS, she is preceded in death by her father, Jessie Richardson; her brother, Tyrone Richardson; and four sisters, Sammie Kay, Johnetta, Beverly Ann, and Genell Richardson; and

WHEREAS, she leaves to genuinely cherish her memories her husband, Terry Below; stepdaughter, Terineshia Lard; granddaughters, Aniyah and A'Myrah Shields; mother, Sammie Foster Richardson; and a host of sisters, brothers, nieces, nephews, and friends who loved her dearly; and

WHEREAS, DeSoto Parish Deputy Donna Richardson-Below was often described as having been a loving wife, beautiful daughter, devoted aunt, adorable sister, and "beacon of light" by her co-workers, and it is certain that her earthly presence will be missed but never forgotten.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Deputy Donna Richardson-Below of DeSoto Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to her husband, Terry Below.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES