

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 26

BY SENATOR REESE

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of James Thomas "Tommy" Poe Jr.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of James Thomas "Tommy" Poe Jr. on May 2, 2020, at the age of sixty-six; and

WHEREAS, Tommy Poe was born on June 24, 1953, in Leesville, Louisiana, lived most of his life in the Hicks area, and was a 1971 graduate of Hicks High School; and

WHEREAS, he overcame polio at a young age and this experience shaped his life and he never let anything stop him; and

WHEREAS, Tommy worked in the logging business and drove trucks before attending the police academy where, at the age of forty-two, he graduated at the top of his class and was the president of his class as well; and

WHEREAS, he worked for the Vernon Parish Sheriff's Department for over twenty-seven years, first as a dispatcher, then sheriff's deputy, and retired as a detective; and

WHEREAS, Tommy was known throughout the community as a talented musician who sang and played the guitar; he played in church and at various community events; and

WHEREAS, he was a lifelong cowboy and loved riding horses; and

WHEREAS, Tommy's love for the Lord was very evident in his life; he always put God first and was a member of LaCamp Church of God for thirty-eight years; and

WHEREAS, Tommy was preceded in death by his parents, James Thomas Poe Sr. and Johnnie Billie Burns Poe and sister, Margaret Poe; and

WHEREAS, left to cherish his memory are his wife of nearly forty-five years, Virginia Smith Poe; son, Joshua Poe and wife Kellie; daughter, Kristie Marquez and husband Carly; brother, Matthew Poe and wife Michelle; sisters, Catherine Brogdon and husband Roger and Mary Joseph and husband Larry; grandchildren, Carly Marquez Torres,

Andrew Haaf and wife Kendra, Krystal Marquez Torres, Isabella Marquez, Alexander Marquez, Abigail Poe, and Caylie Poe; great-grandchild, Talymar Delgado Marquez; and a host of extended family and friends; and

WHEREAS, he was a Godly man who will be remembered by everyone who knew him but most of all, he was a loving husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and friend to so many; 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 men like James Thomas "Tommy" Poe Jr. who led by example and made the world a better place for future generations and was an inspiration to all who were fortunate enough to have known him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby honor the life of James Thomas "Tommy" Poe Jr., an extraordinary man who shall forever be remembered, and pay tribute to his legacy, and express sincere condolences to the family of James Thomas "Tommy" Poe Jr. upon the occasion of his death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Virginia Smith Poe.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE