

2020 First Extraordinary Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 11

BY SENATOR CARTER

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Don "Coach Watt" Nicholas Wattigny.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3 passing of Don "Coach Watt" Nicholas Wattigny.

4 WHEREAS, Don Nicholas Wattigny, fondly known as "Coach Watt", was born
5 March 6, 1939, in Algiers on the Westbank of New Orleans to the late Clifton Nicholas and
6 Alice Huff Wattigny; and

7 WHEREAS, a graduate of Holy Name of Mary High School, Coach Watt was
8 quarterback on that school's 1955 state championship football team and continued his
9 football career playing at Tulane University of Louisiana and later transferred to Northeast
10 Louisiana University in Monroe where he was the captain of the football team while also
11 earning a Bachelor of Arts in Education and later earning a master's degree from Nicholls
12 State University; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1960 Coach Watt married Edith Fernandez Wattigny, his high school
14 sweetheart, and together they raised three daughters; and

15 WHEREAS, Coach Watt began his coaching career in 1963, when he was hired at
16 Behrman High School but later moved to Edna Karr Junior High in 1964, where he served
17 as a teacher, head track coach, and assistant football coach under John Owens, eventually
18 becoming head football coach at Edna Karr Junior High in 1981; and

1 WHEREAS, after many successful seasons, including parish and city championships,
2 Coach Watt retired from Edna Karr Junior High to become an assistant football coach, then
3 head football coach at De La Salle High School, and under his guidance as track coach, De
4 La Salle won its first-ever district track championship; and

5 WHEREAS, in 1991, Coach Watt returned to Edna Karr High School as a social
6 studies teacher and head football coach, where his hard work and dedication formed the
7 foundation and tradition of Edna Karr High School football, having an overall record from
8 1991 to 2002 of 108-38-1 and culminating with district and state championship honors in
9 1993; and

10 WHEREAS, upon his retirement from Edna Karr High School, Coach Watt
11 continued to make a difference in the lives of young men by serving as football coach at
12 Christian Brothers School from 2006 - 2011 during which time he had the honor of coaching
13 his grandson, Dylan, in the 2006 and 2007 seasons; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Watt served proudly as coach of a girls track team, he Crescent
15 City Striders and the Harvey Oilers Track Team; and

16 WHEREAS, a mentor to coaches past and present, Coach Watt often returned to
17 Edna Karr High School to mentor and motivate the Cougar football team; and

18 WHEREAS, Coach Watt was inducted into the De La Salle High School Hall of
19 Fame, became a recipient of the Touchdown Club of New Orleans Prep Award, a board and
20 charter member of the Westbank Quarterback Club, the 69er's Social Club, and Theta
21 Chapter of the Golden Ages; and

22 WHEREAS, Coach Watt loved boiling seafood, camping, traveling, Sunday
23 brunches, and spending time with family and friends; and

24 WHEREAS, a dedicated, resourceful, and talented individual, Coach Watt exerted
25 a positive impact on thousands of young lives and was especially proud of his friends and
26 family: Edith, his beloved wife of 59 years; three daughters Janell, Shannon, and Beth; and
27 six grandchildren; and

28 WHEREAS, Coach Watt will be sorely missed by the athletes and coaches he
29 mentored, as well as the many friends and family with whom he shared many happy times.

30 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana

1 does hereby extend heartfelt condolences to the family of Don "Coach Watt" Nicholas
2 Wattigny on the occasion of his passing.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
4 family of Don "Coach Watt" Nicholas Wattigny.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Thomas L. Tyler.

DIGEST

SR 11 Original

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occasion of his passing.