HLS 202ES-461 ORIGINAL

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 39

BY REPRESENTATIVE HUGHES

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CONDOLENCES: Expresses the condolences of the legislature on the death of Nathaniel Hawthorne "Nat" LaCour, Jr.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To express the heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana on the death of
3	Nathaniel Hawthorne "Nat" LaCour, Jr.
4	WHEREAS, Nathaniel Hawthorne "Nat" LaCour, Jr., was a lifelong New Orleanian;
5	he graduated from Walter Cohen High School and then Southern University, where he
6	earned bachelor's and master's degrees in biology; and
7	WHEREAS, Mr. LaCour began his career in education in 1961 as a high school
8	biology teacher at George Washington Carver High School; he became active in the
9	predominantly black teachers' union affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers
10	after seeing that the federation supported the integration of Louisiana schools; in 1972, his
11	local union merged with the predominantly white affiliate of the National Education
12	Association to form United Teachers of New Orleans; the new organization elected
13	Mr. LaCour to serve as its president; and
14	WHEREAS, Nat served as the president of the United Teachers of New Orleans from
15	1972 until 1998; in 1998, he became vice president of the American Federation of Teachers;
16	he served the national organization in various leadership capacities until he retired in 2008;
17	upon retirement, he was named secretary-treasurer emeritus; and
18	WHEREAS, under Mr. LaCour's leadership, the United Teachers of New Orleans
19	became the first teachers union in the deep South to obtain a collective bargaining agreement
20	with a local school system; he was committed to giving teachers the resources to improve
21	their craft, thus creating a better learning environment for students; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. LaCour's lifetime of work on behalf of teachers and other school 2 employees created an enduring legacy; and 3 WHEREAS, he was a founding member of the National Board for Professional 4 Teaching Standards, and he served on the boards of the Albert Shanker Institute, the 5 National Democratic Institute, the A. Philip Randolph Institute, and the Coalition of Black 6 Trade Unionists; and 7 WHEREAS, Nat LaCour leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Connie Goodly-8 LaCour; daughters, Carla LaCour Goudia and Charlette LaCour; stepsons, Chris and Stephen 9 Goodly; sister, Gwendolyn Alexander; nine grandchildren; and a great-grandchild; and 10 WHEREAS, Nat LaCour was a selfless man who placed the needs of teachers and 11 students above his own; he was a truly admirable individual, and he will be deeply missed 12 by all who knew and loved him. 13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 14 express heartfelt condolences on the death of Nathaniel Hawthorne "Nat" LaCour, Jr.; does 15 hereby offer sincere gratitude for Mr. LaCour's unrelenting commitment towards the 16 betterment of the education system in New Orleans, in Louisiana, and in the entire nation; 17 and does hereby extend sincere hopes and wishes that his family find comfort during this 18 difficult time. 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the 20 family of Nathaniel Hawthorne "Nat" LaCour, Jr.

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 39 Original 2020 Second Extraordinary Session Hughes

Expresses the condolences of the legislature on the death of Nathaniel Hawthorne "Nat" LaCour, Jr.