

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 26

BY SENATOR BOUDREAUX

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the untimely death of Cheryl Larkin Castille.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana learned of the untimely death of Cheryl Larkin Castille on September 20, 2020, at the age of sixty-one; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl Larkin Castille was born in Green Bay, Wisconsin, to Bill and Jan Larkin, moving to La Crosse, Wisconsin, shortly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, she graduated from Aquinas High School in La Crosse in 1977 and earned a bachelor's and master's degree in therapeutic recreation from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse; and

WHEREAS, at the time of her passing, Mrs. Castille was the executive director of the Louisiana Division of the Arts within the Office of Cultural Development under the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Castille brought extensive experience creating and implementing music, visual arts, culinary arts, dance, creative writing, and theatre programs to her work for the state, and was an ardent champion of the arts and culture in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, her enthusiasm and loving spirit made a significant impact in the four years she served as executive director of the Louisiana Division of the Arts; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Castille previously served as assistant to St. Landry Parish President W. K. Bill Fontenot Jr., where she acted as a liaison between the Parish President's office and community, economic, arts, culture, and service organizations; special projects manager for the St. Landry Parish Tourism Commission, where she developed community based art and cultural programs; program director of Cité des Arts, an arts incubator in downtown Lafayette; assistant director of Louisiana Folk Roots in Lafayette, a nonprofit

dedicated to preserving and presenting the diverse cultures and living heritage of south Louisiana; and owner/manager of What Bayou Trading Company, an art gallery and music shop; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her loving husband of twenty-seven years, Blake Castille; mother, Jan Larkin; brother, Scott Larkin; and nieces, Sarah Jayde (Castille) Williams, Theresa Larkin, and Sarah Larkin; and

WHEREAS, the death of Cheryl Larkin Castille has left a substantial void in her community and a sense of loss in the citizens whose lives she touched, and her memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all those who knew and loved this remarkable lady; and

WHEREAS, Cheryl Larkin Castille was truly an admirable woman whose creative and exuberant presence in the Louisiana arts community will be deeply missed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences on the death of Cheryl Larkin Castille, does hereby posthumously commend her for many years of dedicated service to the promotion of arts, culture, tourism, and music for the state of Louisiana, and does hereby record for posterity her outstanding achievements and extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor she will forever bring to the state of Louisiana and the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Cheryl Larkin Castille.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE