

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28

BY REPRESENTATIVES MOORE AND FISHER AND SENATOR JACKSON

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the legislature on the death of Ervin Peter Turner.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of Representatives has learned of the passing, on March 11, 2022, of Ervin "Pete" Turner; and

WHEREAS, Pete was born in Monroe, Louisiana, on March 20, 1948, to Clara Lee Turner; he dedicated his life to Christ at an early age at Antioch Baptist Church in Monroe and remained an active member until he was called home; and

WHEREAS, Pete was a member of the Richwood High School graduating class of 1967, and he continued his education at Northeast Louisiana University; in 1967, he gave up his studies to assist a group of laymen from three Baptist associations in the formation of a boys club aimed at mentoring area youth; and

WHEREAS, as a young man, Pete often pondered his civic responsibility for the impoverished and marginalized members of his community, thus he eagerly jumped at the opportunity to help establish what would become the Tri-District Boys Club; and

WHEREAS, Pete's unique combination of charisma and a strong sense of civic duty helped grow the Tri-District Boys Club into one of the most influential youth programs in Northeast Louisiana; the club mentors over one thousand boys daily using facilities donated by the Ouachita Parish school board; and

WHEREAS, Pete expanded the range of his mentoring projects by forming the Luminus Civic and Social Club; this club was comprised of young men who work to change the political landscape of the parish, and members sought and won political offices; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Turner was elected to the Ouachita Parish police jury; as an elected official, Peter worked with former juror Abe E. Pierce, III, to hone his diplomatic craft; he employed his skills to help the poor and disenfranchised members of his community; throughout the sixteen years he served as a police juror, he continuously fought for the

marginalized communities of the state, and his efforts were an important factor in millions of dollars being allocated by the state legislature and city and parish governments to fund projects in those communities; and

WHEREAS, Pete was a genuine pillar of Ouachita Parish; he was beloved for his willingness to invest his time and money in local youth and his belief in the value of second chances for all; after falling seriously ill in 1999 and recovering, he used his second chance to form the Ervin Peter Turner Foundation and Tri-City subdivision, which sits on the old Tri-District Boys Club site; Tri-City provides affordable housing for many families and stands as a testament to the time and money Pete was willing to invest in his community; and

WHEREAS, Pete Turner was an incredibly dedicated husband, father, brother, grandfather, and uncle; he was united in holy matrimony to Kathleen Lindsey Turner on March 3, 1968, and to their union, two children were born, Christopher Earl Turner and Roanita Turner Jenkins; he also helped raise his sister's daughter, Ashely; and

WHEREAS, Ervin "Pete" Turner is the truest example of a civil servant; his unrelenting dedication to the oft-overlooked members of his community was a genuine testament to his character; he will be deeply missed by the people of Ouachita Parish, but his incredible community impact will be felt for generations to come.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Ervin Peter Turner; does hereby recognize him for his inspiring, lifelong dedication to serving his community; does hereby further recognize his incredible community impact through the Tri-District Boys Club and Tri-City subdivision; and does hereby extend sincerest hopes that his family and friends and Ouachita Parish find comfort in knowing that he truly served out his mission on Earth.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Ervin Peter Turner.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE