

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 110

BY REPRESENTATIVES DUPLESSIS, BAGLEY, BOYD, FREIBERG, HORTON,
LACOMBE, MCKNIGHT, AND PRESSLY AND SENATORS FOIL AND FRED
MILLS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana on the death of José Enrique Torres, MD, United States Navy veteran and distinguished graduate of and instructor with the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans medical school.

WHEREAS, Dr. José Torres, a longtime resident of New Orleans, passed away in Baton Rouge on April 22, 2022, at the age of one hundred after a remarkable life that included a highly distinguished career in medicine; and

WHEREAS, José Enrique Torres was born on January 11, 1922, in Villahermosa, Mexico, to Epaminondas Torres Solís of Nicaragua and Esperanza Morales Boylan of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, after a childhood in coastal Central America, he came to New Orleans as a young man, graduated from Alcée Fortier High School, and rose to prominence as a long-practicing physician at several greater New Orleans hospitals and esteemed instructor with the LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans medical school; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Torres attended LSU in Baton Rouge for his undergraduate studies and was a proud Fighting Tiger from that time through the rest of his life; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, he enlisted in the United States Navy and served his country honorably as a member of the Navy Medical Corps; and

WHEREAS, influenced by his Navy experience, Dr. Torres chose the practice of medicine for his career, enrolled in LSU's New Orleans medical school, and graduated from that institution in the class of 1955; and

WHEREAS, as a practicing OB/GYN at Charity Hospital and professor, later professor emeritus, with the LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans, Dr. Torres delivered and treated countless New Orleanians and guided the careers of a host of physicians; and

WHEREAS, in New Orleans, Dr. Torres met and married the love of his life, Lois Rita Muller; together, he and Lois experienced the joy of bringing into the world five daughters as well as the heartbreak of losing a child, their beloved Giselle Marie, to pediatric cancer; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Torres was board-certified in obstetrics and gynecology, held additional certification in cervicography and colposcopy, was a fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and was a founding member of both the American Society of Colposcopy and Cervical Pathology and the Gynecologic Laser Society; and

WHEREAS, he was nationally recognized as a pioneer in the treatment of cervical cancer by carbon dioxide laser; passionate about cancer care, he became active with the New Orleans chapter of the American Cancer Society and was a past president of that organization; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Torres enjoyed and capably fulfilled many appointments on healthcare-related boards, published articles in and served as editor of various medical journals, and taught legions of medical students as a lecturer, course director, and visiting professor at medical schools both in the United States and abroad; and

WHEREAS, an avid storyteller, he often regaled his family with legends of banana battles on the beaches of his youth and of fending off barracuda and finding Spanish gold while freediving in the depths of the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, "Uncle José" was revered by his extended family because he excelled at practically everything he did—everything except ambulance-driving, that is, which he divulged in one of his more comical stories; and

WHEREAS, he was a devout member of the Catholic church; humble and stalwart in his faith, he served as a Eucharistic minister in his local dioceses for many years; and

WHEREAS, as Hurricane Katrina approached New Orleans in August of 2005, Dr. Torres heeded the wisdom of his daughter, Michelle, and evacuated from his West Bank home; thereafter, he relocated to Baton Rouge and enjoyed his later years to the fullest as

a resident of St. James Place and volunteer and mentor to young physicians training at LSU's Earl K. Long Medical Center; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Torres was a charming, brilliant, genuine, and deeply compassionate man who was treasured by his family and admired by those who knew him; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Epaminondas and Esperanza; wife, Lois; daughter, Giselle; and sister, Judith Maria Doubleday; and

WHEREAS, left to cherish his memory are his four daughters, Allison Torres Wisener (Michael), Maria Esperanza Torres, Elizabeth Ann Torres Brown, and Michelle Alexandra Torres; five grandchildren, T. Joseph Wisener, William C. Wisener, Todd W. Brown (Mercy), Garrett W. Brown, and Claire C. Brown; numerous nieces and nephews; and two great-grandchildren, both recently born in the care of one of his students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences on the death of José Enrique Torres, MD, and does hereby recognize his singular contributions and achievements, which will forever be a source of pride and honor for his family.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Dr. Torres.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE