HLS 22RS-4229 ORIGINAL

2022 Regular Session

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 131

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of Melenda "Mendy" Dionne Jeter

A RESOLUTION

2	To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Melenda
3	"Mendy" Dionne Jeter.
4	WHEREAS, Melenda Dionne Jeter was born in Camden, New Jersey, on October 7,
5	1971, to Brenda Wade Dickerson Jeter and the late Melvin Leroy Jeter; she had immense
6	pride for her uniquely-spelled name, which is a combination of her parents' first names; and
7	WHEREAS, from a young age, Mendy displayed an exceptionally high intellect
8	along with a truly infectious personality; she grasped the ability to read as a kindergartner,
9	allowing her to skip the first grade; and
10	WHEREAS, Mendy graduated from Lake Braddock Secondary School in 1989; she
11	excelled both academically and athletically while in high school; she was a three-sport
12	athlete, competing in soccer, track and field, and basketball, and even won a state
13	championship in the triple jump event; and
14	WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Mendy attended the University of
15	Virginia where she graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology; while in college, she
16	served as a peer advisor and was active in several student organizations; and
17	WHEREAS, after college, Mendy accepted a full scholarship to the University of
18	Virginia Medical School; she graduated at the top of her class and was elected to the Alpha
19	Omega Alpha Honor Society; she then became the first African American to complete a
20	residency in radiation oncology at Harvard's Joint Combined Program hosted at Brigham and

1 Women's Hospital and Massachusetts General Hospital; during her residency, she also 2 earned a master of public health degree; and 3 WHEREAS, Mendy moved to Houston in 2002 to join the faculty of the University 4 of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center as the first African American woman in radiation 5 oncology; with her dream job secured, she passionately served MD Anderson for twenty 6 years and became a world-renowned expert in the field of thoracic radiation oncology; she 7 gave lectures around the world and published more than sixty peer-reviewed academic 8 works; and 9 WHEREAS, Mendy was a member of several professional organizations including 10 the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the Mary Susan Moore Society of African 11 American Women Physicians, the Houston Medical Forum, the American College of 12 Radiology, the National Medical Association, the American Medical Association, and the 13 University of Houston Women's Study Board; and 14 WHEREAS, Mendy cherished her roles as a mother and wife, she spent twenty-five 15 loving years with her husband, Garvin Davis; the two shared a love of art, wine, music, and 16 travel; they traveled together often, sharing many unique and memorable experiences; their 17 union was blessed with two daughters, Blair Victoria Davis and Dylan Alexandra Davis; and 18 WHEREAS, Mendy also accepted Christ at an early age and was baptized at Alfred 19 Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Virginia; after moving to Houston, she and her family 20 joined the Wheeler Baptist Church family; and 21 WHEREAS, Mendy battled severe Systemic Lupus Erythematous, which is an auto-22 immune disease that attacks healthy tissue throughout adulthood, and passed away on 23 May 5, 2022; she leaves to cherish her beautiful memory her mother, Brenda "Oma" Jeter; 24 her loving husband, Garvin H. Davis, M.D.; her daughters, Blair Davis and Dylan Davis; 25 brothers, Leroy Jeter, and his wife Maria, and Cordell "Cisco" Jeter, and his wife Sandra; 26 mother-in-law, Elaine "E-meme" Davis; father-in-law, Leroy "LePapa" Davis, Ph.D.; 27 brother-in-law, Griffin L. Davis, M.D., and his wife Deanne; uncles, David S. Jeter, Jr., and 28 Charles Richard Dickerson, and his wife Dana; aunt, Johnnie Manuel; nieces, Sophia 29 Jonatan, and her husband Stephen, Kimberly Jeter, and her husband Thomas, and McKenzie 30 Davis; nephews, Jonathan Jeter, and his wife Brandy, and Cameron Davis; five great-nieces

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- 1 and great-nephews who knew her as "Mendy the Great"; and a host of extended family
- 2 members, colleagues, and friends; she will be deeply missed, but certainly never forgotten.
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
- 4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Melenda
- 5 "Mendy" Dionne Jeter and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that her family, friends, and
- 6 loved ones find comfort in her memory during this difficult time.
- 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
- 8 family of Melenda Dionne Jeter.

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)]

HR 131 Original

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Carpenter

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