

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 34

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHEXNAYDER

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Ruben John Duzat.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing of Ruben John Duzat; and

WHEREAS, Ruben John Duzat was born in Marksville, Louisiana, on August 25, 1949, and was the youngest of six children born to Orney and Villia Duzat; he and his siblings grew up in Moncla, Louisiana, and he attended Marksville High School; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school in 1967, Ruben enrolled at Louisiana State University; as an undergraduate student, he studied agricultural mechanics and obtained a bachelor's degree in 1971; he also pursued graduate studies at LSU and earned a master's degree in agricultural economics in 1974; and

WHEREAS, while studying at LSU in 1972, Ruben married Laura Louise Laborde; the couple raised their three children, Tommy, Jennifer, and Julie; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duzat owned and operated Wayside Farms, a row crop and cattle farm in Simmesport, Louisiana, for forty-five years; as a farmer, he was dedicated to conservation efforts and on-farm stewardship, and his passion for conservation led him to serve on the board of the National Association of Conservation Districts and as president and secretary/treasurer of the Louisiana Association of Conservation Districts; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Duzat worked to promote best management practices throughout his career by working closely with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, LSU AgCenter, Louisiana 4-H, and Future Farmers of America; he was recognized for his efforts first by being named "Outstanding Louisiana Master Farmer of the Year" in 2014, and later by his induction into the Louisiana Agriculture Hall of Distinction in 2016; and

WHEREAS, as a parishioner at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Marksville, Ruben was a member of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus 2333 and the Knights of Columbus Chapter 1217; he also worked with the Louisiana Cattleman's Association, the Louisiana Farm Bureau, Louisiana Ag Leadership, the LSU College of Agriculture, the LSU Alumni Association, and the LSU Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dauzat also played a pivotal role in establishing the Louisiana 4-H State Museum in Avoyelles Parish; as a farmer, he truly understood the degree of faith, time, love, and devotion required to help make something grow, and he lived his life in this manner; and

WHEREAS, Ruben John Dauzat leaves to cherish his memory his wife of more than fifty years, Laura Laborde Dauzat; son, Tommy Dauzat, and his wife Missy; daughters, Jennifer Dauzat Lovelace, and her husband Michael, and Julie Dauzat Grunewald, and her husband Hampton; grandchildren, Katherine Dauzat, Walker Dauzat, Rylee Lovelace, Lucie Grunewald, Jack Lovelace, Anna Grunewald, Ruby Grunewald, and Reed Lovelace; brother, Dyrel Dauzat, and his wife Chalayne, Steven Dauzat, and his wife Irby; sisters, Rae Hair and Fae Smith, and her husband Pete; sister-in-law, Diane Dauzat; mother-in-law, Peggy Laborde; and a host of nieces, nephews, god-children, extended relatives, and friends; he will be deeply missed but certainly never forgotten.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Ruben John Dauzat and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that his family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of his life.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE