

2024 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the passing of Carol Gelderman.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of  
3 Louisiana upon the passing of Carol Gelderman.

4 WHEREAS, it is with solemn regret and profound sorrow that the Senate has learned  
5 of the passing of Carol Gelderman on March 8, 2024, at the age of eighty-nine; and

6 WHEREAS, Carol Wettlaufer was born on December 2, 1936, in Grosse Pointe,  
7 Michigan, to Albert and Irene Wettlaufer; and

8 WHEREAS, in 1956, Carol earned an undergraduate degree at Manhattanville  
9 College in Purchase, New York, and in 1959, she married Gregory Anthony "Jay"  
10 Gelderman Jr. and had three children in four years; and

11 WHEREAS, after moving to Chicago, Illinois, she decided to return to college,  
12 selecting nearby Northwestern University, and earned masters and doctoral degrees; and

13 WHEREAS, in 1972, a year after her divorce, the recent doctoral graduate and single  
14 mother of three children accepted a job at the university then known as LSU in New Orleans  
15 to teach modern drama; and

16 WHEREAS, Carol Gelderman's thirty-three-year career at the University of New  
17 Orleans was capped when she was named Distinguished Professor of English; and

18 WHEREAS, during her academic career, Carol Gelderman authored eight books,

1 including three biographies: *Henry Ford, the Wayward Capitalist*; *Mary McCarthy, A Life*;  
 2 and *Louis Auchincloss, A Writer's Life*; and her strong interest in politics and government  
 3 was reflected in her book *All The Presidents' Words: The Bully Pulpit and the Creation of*  
 4 *the Virtual Presidency*; she also wrote dozens of articles on topics as varied as theater,  
 5 biography, politics, and mutual funds; and

6 WHEREAS, Carol Gelderman lived in the French Quarter before moving to the  
 7 Uptown area of New Orleans and she served several terms on the Vieux Carré Property  
 8 Owners, Residents and Associates board and she was always eager to preserve the character  
 9 of New Orleans' oldest neighborhood; and

10 WHEREAS, prior to her life in New Orleans, Carol was employed at the American  
 11 Embassy in London and at television stations in the cities of Detroit and Chicago; and

12 WHEREAS, Carol was a member of the National Arts Club in New York City and  
 13 was among the first women admitted to membership in the previously all-male Cosmos Club  
 14 in Washington, D.C.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
 16 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Carol  
 17 Gelderman on the occasion of her passing.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
 19 family of Carol Gelderman.

---

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
 of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Dawn Romero Watson.

---

SR 15 Original

DIGEST  
 2024 Regular Session

Duplensis

Expresses condolences upon the passing of Carol Gelderman.