

2024 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 128

BY SENATOR FIELDS

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Avis Delores Baker White.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of
3 Louisiana upon the death of Avis Delores Baker White.

4 WHEREAS, Avis Delores Baker White, a native and lifelong resident of Baton
5 Rouge, Louisiana, was born on June 5, 1927, and transitioned from this life on May 19,
6 2024; and

7 WHEREAS, Avis was the only child of the late William Alvin Baker and Gertrude
8 "Gertie" Feast Baker; and

9 WHEREAS, Avis demonstrated academic excellence and leadership from a young
10 age, graduating from McKinley High School in 1943 at the age of fifteen, and later being
11 crowned as the Southern University Homecoming Queen for the 1946-47 academic year; and

12 WHEREAS, after completing her education at Southern University at the age of
13 nineteen, Avis dedicated thirty-three years to educating the youth of East Baton Rouge
14 Parish as a teacher at Scott Street Elementary and McKinley High School, where she taught
15 typing, bookkeeping, and business classes; and

16 WHEREAS, Avis made significant contributions as the Distributive Education
17 Coordinator during the 1970s, facilitating the integration of African-American students into
18 the workforce by securing employment opportunities for them; and

1 WHEREAS, Avis was a passionate supporter of McKinley High School athletics and
2 retired from her teaching career in 1979; and

3 WHEREAS, Avis was an active participant in politics, serving the Louisiana
4 Democratic Party and running for the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board; and

5 WHEREAS, Avis was a devoted Christian and a member of both Living Faith
6 Christian Center and later New St. John Baptist Church, where she was an Honorary
7 Member of the Bookstore Ministry; and

8 WHEREAS, Avis' legacy is marked by her unwavering commitment to integrity,
9 educational access, faith, and family; and

10 WHEREAS, at the time of her death, Avis was the oldest living Southern University
11 Homecoming Queen, and was known for her leadership roles as president of the Alpha Tau
12 Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, president of the Panhellenic Council,
13 and secretary of the Student Government Association during her senior year; and

14 WHEREAS, Avis is survived by her son, Dana William White; daughters, Trudy
15 Melita White and Robin Renee' White Clark (Marvin); grandsons, Donovan White (Tina),
16 Stephen Clark (Megan), and Shawn J. Clark; granddaughters, Ashley Elizabeth White and
17 Danielle White Hill (Leon); two great-grandsons, Maverick and Jett Clark; four
18 great-granddaughters; other relatives, and a multitude of friends who will cherish her
19 memory; and

20 WHEREAS, Avis was preceded in death by her ex-husband, Gilbert "Gilly" A.
21 White; her parents, William Alvin Baker and Gertrude "Gertie" Feast Baker; her paternal
22 grandparents, George and Mary "Momma" Frances Baker; and her maternal grandparents,
23 Jacque "Jack" Feast (Feni) and Rosa Hollins Feast.

24 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
25 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Avis Delores Baker
26 White.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
28 family of Avis Delores Baker White.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Kathy Liberty.

SR 128 Original	DIGEST 2024 Regular Session	Fields
-----------------	--------------------------------	--------

Expresses sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Avis Delores Baker White.