

2026 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16

BY SENATORS MORRIS AND CATHEY

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere condolences upon the death of former West Monroe High School football coach Jerry O. Arledge.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of Jerry O. Arledge, a beloved coach and mentor, who dedicated more than five decades of his life to influencing high school athletics and athletes, and shaping young lives throughout West Monroe and beyond.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the peaceful passing of Jerry O. Arledge, former head football coach of the West Monroe High School Rebels, at the age of eighty-three; and

WHEREAS, Jerry was born on April 1, 1942, and raised in Oil City, Louisiana, graduating from North Caddo High School; and

WHEREAS, he earned a degree in Health and Physical Education from Louisiana Tech University in 1964; and

WHEREAS, Jerry's love of football from an early age continued at Louisiana Tech, where he played both linebacker and offensive guard in the days when players routinely switched between offense and defense, excelling in both positions; and

WHEREAS, after graduating, he went on to coach football at North Caddo High School, Fair Park High School, Northwestern State University, and Louisiana Tech; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to the game ultimately led Coach Arledge to the

1 campus of West Monroe High School in 1992, where he served as one of the top defensive
2 coordinators in the state, distinguishing himself in that position with eight state
3 championship teams; and

4 WHEREAS, he was named head coach of the Rebels in 2013, and led his team to
5 nine district championships and two state championship game appearances, compiling an
6 incredible 104-22-1 record; and

7 WHEREAS, Coach Arledge's exemplary coaching produced outstanding players and
8 helped to cultivate new careers for those players in the ranks of college and professional
9 football; and

10 WHEREAS, he proved himself to be a leader of the highest caliber, a catalyst who
11 motivated young athletes to work together, to exceed personal expectations, to attempt
12 seemingly unattainable goals, to demonstrate an exceptional competitive nature and esprit
13 de corps, and to perform as a team made of many cohesive parts; and

14 WHEREAS, Coach Arledge was honored by the National Football Foundation and
15 College Hall of Fame in 2021 for his contributions to amateur football, having worked with
16 unflagging vitality out of pure love for the game and a desire to help students play it well;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, devoted to his faith and a steadfast member of First Methodist Church
19 in West Monroe; Jerry was preceded in death by his grandson, Ben; his parents, Ruel and
20 Myrtle Arledge; and siblings, Edward Arledge, Buster Arledge, and Peggy Densmore; and

21 WHEREAS, those left to honor and cherish him are his loving wife of over sixty
22 years, the former Sally Lytton of Gilliam, Louisiana; his four children, Sara Blackwell, Will
23 Arledge (Joan), Libby Gleason (Steve), and Rob Arledge (Amanda); his grandchildren,
24 Abby, Will (Laura), Sally, Emily (Matt), Mary, Andrew, Lytton, and Sara Catherine; his five
25 great grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, loved ones, and friends; and

26 WHEREAS, Jerry shall remain an enduring figure in West Monroe sports, his
27 community, and his state for many years to come; and

28 WHEREAS, he represented all that is good about Louisiana as a man with unique
29 gifts and a charitable spirit, and with his passing Louisiana has lost one of its finest citizens,
30 who left an indelible mark on the lives of the many individuals whom he touched with his

1 inspiring qualities and generosity, and who is now terribly missed but will never be
2 forgotten.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
4 extend its sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Jerry O. Arledge on the occasion
5 of his passing and record for posterity his outstanding accomplishments and singular
6 contributions, and does further express its enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride
7 and honor that he will forever bring to his family, friends, players, and state.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Sally
9 Lytton Arledge.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, 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)]

SCR 16 Original

DIGEST
2026 Regular Session

Morris

Expresses the condolences of the legislature upon the death of Coach Jerry O. Arledge.