

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 31

BY SENATOR LUNEAU

COMMENDATIONS. Commends and recognizes Donald G. "Don" Kelly for his years of distinguished public service and long-standing contributions to the legal profession.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend and recognize Donald G. "Don" Kelly, former legislator and attorney, for his
3 distinguished public service and long-standing years of service to the people of
4 Louisiana.

5 WHEREAS, Donald G. "Don" Kelly, an attorney from Natchitoches Parish, has
6 devoted his life to service to his community, his clients, and the citizens of the state of
7 Louisiana; and

8 WHEREAS, a graduate of Northwestern State University, Don earned a Juris Doctor
9 degree from Louisiana State University, laying the foundation for a distinguished legal
10 career; and

11 WHEREAS, admitted to the Louisiana State Bar in 1966, Donald Kelly has practiced
12 law in this state with integrity, professionalism, and unwavering dedication for six decades;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, Don is admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of the United
15 States, the United States Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Eighth Circuits, and the United
16 States District Courts for the Eastern, Western, and Middle Districts of Louisiana, which
17 reflects the breadth and respect of his professional standing; and

18 WHEREAS, Don Kelly maintained active membership in the Louisiana State Bar

1 Association, the Natchitoches Parish Bar Association, the Louisiana Association for Justice,
2 and the American Association of Justice, and has served as a former president of the
3 Louisiana Association for Justice; and

4 WHEREAS, having no prior experience in politics, Don was elected as a delegate
5 for the 24th Representative District of the Constitutional Convention of 1973 and was
6 subsequently elected to the Louisiana Senate, serving from 1976 to 1996, representing his
7 constituents with professional diligence and distinction; and

8 WHEREAS, during his tenure in the Senate, Don served on the Senate Committee
9 on Judiciary A, the Senate Committee on Judiciary B, the joint budget committee, the Senate
10 Committee on Natural Resources, and the Senate Committee on Finance, making significant
11 contributions during legislative deliberations affecting the people of Louisiana; and

12 WHEREAS, from 1980 to 1987, he served as chairman of the Senate Committee on
13 Transportation, Highways and Public Works providing steady leadership and oversight on
14 matters critical to the state's infrastructure and economic development; and

15 WHEREAS, recognized as a distinguished Senate floor leader for two terms under
16 Governor Edwin Edwards and for one term under Governor Buddy Roemer, Don
17 demonstrated bipartisan respect, leadership, and the confidence of his colleagues; and

18 WHEREAS, Don Kelly's public and professional career reflects a legacy of
19 principled public service, commitment to justice, and steadfast dedication to the betterment
20 of the people of Louisiana.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
22 does hereby commend and recognize Donald G. "Don" Kelly for his exemplary service as
23 a Louisiana State Senator and a distinguished member of the Louisiana Bar Association, and
24 does further express its sincere appreciation for his many contributions to the state of
25 Louisiana.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
27 Donald G. "Don" Kelly as an expression of the Senate's highest regard and respect and
28 extends best wishes to Don for continued success and fulfillment.

