

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 253

BY SENATORS ABRAHAM AND JOHNS

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the deaths of John Murphy Falgout Sr. and Jennie Lee Falgout.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of Jennie Lee Falgout on May 25, 2021, and John Murphy Falgout Sr. on June 7, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Jennie Lee Bruno Falgout was born on January 23, 1931, in Erath, Louisiana, to Edna and Dallas Bruno and grew up in Vinton, Louisiana, prior to moving to and living the majority of her life in Lake Charles, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, while her great calling and strength was that of a wife, mother, and grandmother, she cared greatly for her own education and the education of others; and

WHEREAS, she attended Southwest Louisiana Institute (now University of Louisiana-Lafayette) where she earned a bachelor's degree in education and McNeese State University where she earned a Masters of Guidance and Counseling; and

WHEREAS, she carried her love for education and others into a successful career teaching business, typing, and shorthand for several years at Vinton High School; and

WHEREAS, she later became the High School guidance counselor at Moss Bluff High School and LaGrange High School, where she retired after thirty-two years of faithfully serving her students and colleagues; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Falgout was a member of St. Margaret's Catholic Church in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and her love for her family, her devotion to God, and her ongoing commitment to education could not be separated from her deep Catholic faith; and

WHEREAS, whether she was baking her irresistible chocolate cake, stirring her unbeatable rice and gravy, threading a sewing needle, or giving thoughtful advice to one of her children or grandchildren, Jennie Lee's virtues were visible to all and can be seen in the generations of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, John Murphy Falgout Sr., a native of Delcambe, Louisiana, was born January 6, 1928, to Aurelie Joseph Falgout and Agnes Marie Babineaux; and

WHEREAS, at age eighteen, he joined the Navy and served overseas in Tsingtao, China, on the USS Sierra; he was later stationed in San Diego, California, where he excelled at playing football for Destroyer Pacific (Des Pac); and

WHEREAS, after being honorably discharged from the Navy, he continued his education and took his football skills to Southwestern Louisiana Institute where he met his beautiful bride of seventy years, Jennie Lee Falgout; and

WHEREAS, at SLI, John earned a Bachelor of Science in Education and set football receiving records that stood for many years, signed a contract with the New York Giants, was later inducted into the USL Football Hall of Fame, and was honored by USL in 1987 with the Outstanding Alumni Award for the Class of 1952; and

WHEREAS, he then furthered his education and earned a master's degree in Education Administration from McNeese State University; and

WHEREAS, in 1953, John began an extended and successful career as a teacher, coach, and school principal spanning from Abbeville to Vinton to Lake Charles High School; and

WHEREAS, after retiring as principal of LCHS, he continued to serve Calcasieu Parish as an elected school board member for twenty plus years where he proudly served as vice president and president, and later president, of the Louisiana State School Board; and

WHEREAS, in 1980, his hard work continued into a fulfilling second career as a consultant for Garber Industries; and

WHEREAS, John Falgout's passion, virtue, and dedication can be found in the countless stories told by those whose lives he touched; and

WHEREAS, John was an active member of St. Margaret Catholic Church, Knights of Columbus (3rd and 4th degree), the Louisiana School Board Association, National School Board Association, Southwest Louisiana Principal's Association, Louisiana Principals' Association, Calcasieu Education Association, Louisiana Education Association, National Education Association, State and National Principals Association, TPA, and Woodmen of the World Organizations, and National Association of Secondary School Principals Association, as well as being active in the Louisiana, Southwest Louisiana, and Calcasieu school athletic associations; and

WHEREAS, he served in the Air Force Reserves and retired at the rank of Captain;
and

WHEREAS, throughout his life he demonstrated a strong faith in God, love for his family, and an unwavering commitment to education and athletics; and

WHEREAS, whether he was boiling crawfish, barbecuing, playing golf, or joking and kidding with his friends and family, John instilled his virtues so they may be carried on in the generations of his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Jennie Lee was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Estelle McCarthy; John was preceded in death by his beloved wife, his parents, and five siblings, Herman, Howard, Frank, Mable, and Myrtis; and

WHEREAS, Jennie Lee was survived by her husband and two sisters, Janet Breaux and Muriel Guidry; John was survived by a sister Lillian LeBlanc; and they both were survived by five children and their spouses: Charlene Falgout, Yvonne Chafin (Scott Chafin Sr.), John Falgout Jr. (Kristin Falgout), Paul Falgout (Karla Falgout), and Terry Falgout, along with eighteen grandchildren and twenty-two great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, the passing of John and Jennie Lee Falgout has left a substantial void and a sense of loss in the people whose lives they touched, and their memory will live forever in the hearts of all those who knew and loved this truly wonderful couple.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its deepest and most profound condolences to the family of John and Jennie Lee Falgout on the occasion of their deaths.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to their children, Charlene Falgout, Yvonne Chafin, John Falgout Jr., Paul Falgout, and Terry Falgout.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE