SLS 16RS-796

ORIGINAL

2016 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 122

BY SENATOR CORTEZ

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences to the family of former state legislator Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3	death of Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr., one of Louisiana and Acadia Parish's most
4	well-known and beloved political figures, spending much of his civic career as a
5	leader in state government and a longtime state legislator.
6	WHEREAS, it is with great sadness that the citizens and the Legislature of Louisiana
7	learned of the death of Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr., at age eighty-six, a longtime Louisiana
8	political leader from Lafayette, Louisiana; and
9	WHEREAS, Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr. attended Cathedral High School and
10	graduated in 1947 as class valedictorian, received his bachelor's degree from Tulane
11	University in New Orleans in 1951, and obtained his Juris Doctor from Tulane University
12	Law School in 1953; and
13	WHEREAS, he began his legal career in Lafayette, Louisiana, establishing the law
14	firm of Mouton and Roy in 1953; and
15	WHEREAS, Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr. was a democratic member of the
16	Louisiana Legislature from 1964 to 1980; and
17	WHEREAS, he was first elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives in 1964
18	and served until 1966; and

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1	WHEREAS, in 1966 he was elected Louisiana state senator for the Twenty-Third
2	District serving until 1980, and was elected President Pro-Tempore of the Louisiana Senate,
3	serving from 1976-80; and
4	WHEREAS, he served as chairman of the Committee on Health, Education, and
5	Welfare, vice chairman of the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee, as a member
6	of the Governor's Committee on Reorganization of State Government, and as a member of
7	the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget; and
8	WHEREAS, Senator Mouton was instrumental in implementing the French
9	Immersion program and was the principal author of the legislation which created CODOFIL;
10	and
11	WHEREAS, he was the legislative floor leader for Governor Edwin Edwards for
12	eight years, was chosen as the top Senate floor leader for six years by Governor John
13	McKeithen, and Governor Dave Treen, a republican, chose Edgar Mouton Jr. a lifelong
14	democrat, to serve as his Executive Counsel for three years; and
15	WHEREAS, he was instrumental in passing the 1974 Louisiana constitution and ran
16	for governor of Louisiana in 1979 as nonpartisan in the blanket primary; and
17	WHEREAS, he continued to serve in various capacities throughout his career
18	including Special Counsel to Governor Edwards in 1985; and
19	WHEREAS, he was named Louisiana's Best Legislator for three consecutive years
20	in the 1970s, dubbed "Best Orator", inducted into the "Order of Living Legends" in 2003,
21	into the Louisiana Political Hall of Fame in 2004 and 2008, and was honored as Lafayette
22	Parish Democratic Executive Committee's first Lifetime Achievement Award winner; and
23	WHEREAS, he was an exemplary and highly admired citizen of Louisiana who
24	worked tirelessly on a multitude of business, civic, political, and religious causes throughout
25	his life; and
26	WHEREAS, he was known as a humanitarian serving as the national vice president
27	of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, president of the Hub City Kiwanis Club, board
28	member of the Chamber of Commerce, member of the Lafayette Bar Association, past
29	chairman of the Bishop's Service Appeal, past chairman of the Easter Seal Society, past
30	board member on the State Board on Mental Health, a Fourth Degree Knight, and was

inducted as "Chevalier De L'Orde National Du Merit", and he and his wife were also 1 awarded the Key to the City of Lafayette by then City-Parish President Joey Durel; and 2 WHEREAS, he served his community, his city, and his state aggressively and 3 4 successfully, was directly responsible for such worthy projects as the Lafayette Regional Technical Vocational Institute, University Medical Center, the Cajundome and Cajun Field, 5 6 and helped secure millions of dollars of other capital construction programs at the University 7 of Southwestern Louisiana, and additional funding for hundreds of miles of roads and 8 bridges within the state were secured during his tenure; and 9 WHEREAS, he always put God first, but was the loving, devoted, and dedicated 10 husband to the one and only love of his life for sixty-four years, Patsy Dauphin Mouton, was 11 a committed father, cherished grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and uncle whose love 12 of family was of the utmost importance in his life; and 13 WHEREAS, because of his numerous accomplishments in public and private life, 14 the death of Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr. has left a void in his community and is a great loss 15 to the state of Louisiana; and 16 WHEREAS, he was a superb chess player, and enjoyed golfing, hunting, fishing, reading, spending time with his loyal companion, his Chinese Shar Pei named Honey Bear 17 18 and living life to its fullest; and 19 WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of our American society depend, in great measure, upon men like 20 21 Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr., who dedicate their lives, and careers to public service and to sharing their knowledge, time, and energy to make a difference for future generations. 22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana honors the life 23 24 and service of Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr., acknowledges his enormous contributions to 25 the improvement of the status of his state, his parish, and his city, recognizes him as an extraordinary man who will long be remembered, and pays tribute to his remarkable legacy 26 27 which will live on in the hearts of the many people whose lives he touched. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana 28 29 express their sincere condolences to the family of Edgar G. "Sonny" Mouton Jr. upon the 30 occasion of his death.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his

2 wife Patsy Dauphin Mouton.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Tammy Crain Waldrop.

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Cortez

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