2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 180

BY REPRESENTATIVES JEFFERSON, BOUIE, GAINES, BAGNERIS, CARPENTER, GARY CARTER, COX, FRANKLIN, GLOVER, HALL, JIMMY HARRIS, HUNTER, JACKSON, JAMES, JENKINS, JORDAN, TERRY LANDRY, LYONS, MARCELLE, DUSTIN MILLER, NORTON, PIERRE, PRICE, AND SMITH

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences upon the death of former Dillard University President Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To express the condolences of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana
3	upon the death of Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook, former president of Dillard University
4	in New Orleans, and to record the posthumous tribute of the members of the House
5	of Representatives for Dr. Cook's distinguished record as an educator, administrator,
6	public servant, scholar, and civil and human rights activist.
7	WHEREAS, it is with sincere regret and profound sorrow that the members of the
8	House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of
9	Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook on May 29, 2017, at the age of eighty-eight; and
10	WHEREAS, Dr. Cook's remarkable life included an almost sixty-year academic
11	career committed to social justice and equality, exhibiting in all he did his dedication to
12	addressing inequality and racial and ethnic divisions; and
13	WHEREAS, Dr. Cook served as Dillard University's fourth president for twenty-two
14	and one-half years and is credited with strengthening university curriculum, expanding
15	student services, increasing student enrollment by fifty percent, and raising significant funds
16	to improve the campus and its facilities; in 1989, Dr. Cook established the unprecedented
17	Dillard University National Center for Black-Jewish Relations; he retired from the university
18	and was elected by the board of trustees as President Emeritus in 1997; and

HLS 17RS-3605

- WHEREAS, Dr. Cook was born in 1928 in Griffin, Georgia, to Reverend and
 Mrs. M.E. Cook who instilled in Dr. Cook a passion for education that served as the
 foundation for his deep love for teaching; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Dr. Cook received a bachelor's degree from Morehouse College in 5 1948, which he attended with his friend, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and earned a master's 6 degree and a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University before serving in the Korean War; and 7 WHEREAS, Dr. Cook began his career teaching at Southern University and taught 8 at Atlanta University, the University of Illinois, UCLA, and Duke University; at Duke, in 9 1966, he became the first African American to hold a tenured faculty appointment at a 10 predominately white southern college or university, leaving his mark as a mentor, friend, 11 role model, and leader on those he encountered; and

WHEREAS, evidencing his estimable impact on social justice and role as a public servant throughout his career, Dr. Cook was appointed by President Carter to the National Council on the Humanities and by President Clinton to the historic United States Holocaust Memorial Council; Dr. Cook also served as the first black president of the Southern Political Science Association, vice president of the American Political Science Association, president of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, Inc., and chair of the Presidents of the United Negro College Fund; and

WHEREAS, to honor his legacy and continue his research on the social problems
associated with inequality and divisions by race and ethnicity, several universities have
named various institutions, professorships, and fellowships for Dr. Cook, including the Fine
Arts and Communications Center at Dillard University, the Center on Social Equity at Duke
University, and the Summer Academy at The Ohio State University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cook holds honorary degrees from Morehouse College, The Ohio
State University, Dillard University, Illinois College, Duke University, the University of
New Orleans, and Chicago Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Cook was an active member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, a member
of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, is a former ordained deacon at White Rock Baptist
Church in Durham, North Carolina, and was a longtime member of Ebenezer Baptist Church
in Atlanta; and

1	WHEREAS, Dr. Cook is survived by his wife, Sylvia F. Cook, his children, Samuel
2	DuBois Cook Jr., and Karen J. Cook, and grandchildren, Alexandra Renee Cook and Samuel
3	DuBois Cook, III; and
4	WHEREAS, his life's work demonstrates his commitment to "The divine search for
5	knowledge, truth and wisdom" which he affirmed "is by no means alien to the equally divine
6	quest for human decency, justice, compassion, love, peace, and the beloved community of
7	whole and creative persons".
8	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
9	Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere sorrow at the loss of Dr. Samuel
10	DuBois Cook.
11	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature
12	of Louisiana does hereby extend posthumous tribute to the remarkable life of Dr. Samuel
13	DuBois Cook, for a distinctive career of excellence and his legacy of commendable service
14	in academics and the furtherance of social justice and equality.
15	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
16	to the family of Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HR 180 Original2017 Regular SessionJefferson

Expresses condolences on the death of Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook.