

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 20

BY REPRESENTATIVE CONNICK AND SENATOR ALARIO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Joseph Cornelius "Cocie" Rathborne, III, and to record his many contributions and achievements.

WHEREAS, it is with sincere regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of Joseph Cornelius "Cocie" Rathborne, III, who died on February 16, 2018, at the age of eighty-one; with his death, the state lost one of its very best and most-respected businessmen and philanthropists; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rathborne was born on November, 12, 1936, in Manhattan and grew up in Harvey, Louisiana; he attended Isadore Newman School in New Orleans and would go on to graduate from St. Paul's School in Maryland and Yale University; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rathborne honorably served his country as an officer in the United States Marine Corps; and

WHEREAS, he established a successful career in investment banking on the West Coast and later became chairman of the board of Rathborne Land Company, one of the oldest businesses in Jefferson Parish; and

WHEREAS, Cocie Rathborne became a full time resident of New Orleans in 1989; his greatest passion was to help improve the business community of Jefferson Parish; he was a founding member of the Jefferson Business Council, which was designed to create opportunities for business growth in Jefferson Parish; he served as its chairman from 2004-2006; and

WHEREAS, he served as president of the Harvey Canal Industrial Association in 2002, and also served as a director of the association for multiple terms; he was awarded the title of Honorary Lifetime Member in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rathborne was president of the Westbank Council of The Chamber/New Orleans and the River Region; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, Mr. Rathborne was inducted into the Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Cocie Rathborne also dutifully served several years as the co-chairman of the Jefferson Parish Comprehensive Plan, Land Use, and Transportation Steering Committee and generated community support for the modernization of the Jefferson Parish prison as chairman of the Citizens Committee on Additional Jail Facilities for Jefferson; and

WHEREAS, a steadfast lover of nature and developer of the Hickory Ridge subdivision, he was instrumental in the preservation of Old Dickory, one of the oldest living trees in south Louisiana, and donated three-quarters of an acre of the Hickory Ridge community to maintain and protect Old Dickory in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS, he was active in numerous social organizations, including The Boston Club, School of Design, and La Confrerie des Chevaliers du Tastevin; and

WHEREAS, Cocie Rathborne was a pillar of Jefferson Parish and an outstanding citizen whose contributions will be recognized and appreciated for decades; and

WHEREAS, Cocie Rathborne is survived by his beloved wife, Nancy Railing Rathborne, his children, Diana Rathborne, Cocie Rathborne, Cam Rathborne, and his wife Elide, Alexis Rathborne, and his wife Julie, Ashley Bowling, Lauren Bowling Huray, and her husband Matt, and four grandchildren.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Joseph Cornelius "Cocie" Rathborne, III; does hereby record for posterity his outstanding accomplishments and leadership as a citizen; and does recognize that his legacy will forever remain an inspiration to the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Joseph Cornelius Rathborne, III.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE