

2018 Second Extraordinary Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 25

BY SENATORS CLAITOR AND ALARIO

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of former Senate staff attorney, H. David Smith.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to the  
3 family and friends of H. David Smith Jr. upon his passing and to mourn the loss of  
4 a former colleague of the Louisiana Senate.

5 WHEREAS, it was with deep regret that the members of the Senate of the Legislature  
6 of Louisiana have learned of the death of Harvey David Smith Jr., former staff attorney, on  
7 May 18, 2018, one day before his seventy-sixth birthday; and

8 WHEREAS, David Smith was a true southern gentleman, a man brimming with  
9 self-confidence and charisma, who possessed a keen sense of humor and bright smile; and

10 WHEREAS, David was a jack-of-all-trades who, through diligence and hard work,  
11 succeeded in life; he was as comfortable with manual labor as with legal thought and was  
12 always willing to lend a hand to help a friend; and

13 WHEREAS, from March 1986 until his retirement from the Senate in February 2007,  
14 David worked tirelessly as a staff attorney for the Senate committees on Senate and  
15 Governmental Affairs, Retirement, Judiciary A, and Education, and the Senate Select  
16 Committee on Economy and Efficiency in Government; and

17 WHEREAS, he was born on May 19, 1942, in Vicksburg, Mississippi, the only child  
18 of parents Ollia Mae Britt Sawyer and Harvey David Smith Sr.; and

1           WHEREAS, a graduate of Glen Oaks High School in Baton Rouge, he matriculated  
2 to Louisiana State University and earned a bachelor of science degree in biology; after  
3 graduation, David had considered a career in dentistry, however his acceptance letter to law  
4 school arrived first; and

5           WHEREAS, he received a juris doctor degree from Loyola University New Orleans  
6 College of Law and was admitted to the bar in 1970; and

7           WHEREAS, David practiced law for more than forty-seven years as a sole proprietor  
8 and as legal counsel to Thompson Meat Packers, the Louisiana Department of Health and  
9 Human Resources (now the Department of Health), the Louisiana Board of Examiners of  
10 Nursing Facility Administrators, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and  
11 Development, Sabine River Authority, Sabine River Division Authority, Red River  
12 Waterway Commission, and the Tech-Vermilion Fresh Water Diversion Canal Authority;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, while an undergraduate at LSU, David was a member of the LSU  
15 gymnastics team and he remained very athletic and fitness-oriented throughout his life; and

16           WHEREAS, he had a passion and enthusiasm for sailboats that precipitated his  
17 membership in the Pontchartrain Yacht Club; David loved the solitude of being on the water,  
18 he enjoyed the independence, the challenges of navigation, and the physical demands of  
19 being under sail, and the freedom that time on the water provided him; the seclusion found  
20 in sailing was a time to reflect and to examine one's life; and

21           WHEREAS, David was an amicable individual with many friends; he was a member  
22 of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity while at LSU, an active parishioner and supporter of Sacred  
23 Heart School where his children and grandchildren attended, and a member of other social  
24 organizations; and

25           WHEREAS, David had a keen sense of style with a penchant for seersucker suits,  
26 monogrammed shirts, distinctive silk ties, and dirty buck oxford shoes; and

27           WHEREAS, David cultivated many close friendships at the legislature during his two  
28 decades as a Senate staffer; however, in his last years at the Senate, David developed a  
29 special kinship with Senator Chris Ullo of New Orleans while he served as chairman on  
30 several Senate committees; and

1           WHEREAS, when Senator Ullo passed away in 2014, David was honored when the  
2           Ullo family asked that he speak during the eulogy; and

3           WHEREAS, known for his gentle manner and compassionate spirit, David Smith was  
4           admired by all and respected by his contemporaries for his personable demeanor which was  
5           laced with a special kindness and affection; and

6           WHEREAS, David is survived by his loving wife of thirty-seven years Sara Rose  
7           King Smith; their three sons, Carter Alan Carroll and his wife Melissa, Britt Kennedy Smith,  
8           and Bradley David Smith; three grandchildren, Richard Aubrey Carroll, David Hurston  
9           Carroll, and Zechariah David Smith; extended family, and many dear friends.

10           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
11           does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of former Senate staff  
12           attorney, H. David Smith Jr. and does hereby express fond recollections of his service to this  
13           body.

14           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
15           family of David Smith.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Susan P. Montague.

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DIGEST

SR 25 Original

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Claitor

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