

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 129

BY SENATOR FIELDS

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the passing of Maelen Charles "Choo-Choo" Brooks.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the  
3 death of Maelen Charles "Choo-Choo" Brooks.

4 WHEREAS, it was with profound sorrow that the Senate of the Legislature of  
5 Louisiana learned that Maelen Charles "Choo-Choo" Brooks, departed this life on Sunday,  
6 May 14, 2023, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and

7 WHEREAS, Maelen Charles "Choo-Choo" Brooks was the son of the late Charles  
8 Brooks and the late Inez Smith Brooks, born in Ross, California, on January 8, 1946; and

9 WHEREAS, he spent his childhood in California, Alaska, and Chicago, finally  
10 making Baton Rouge, Louisiana, his home; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks was educated at his beloved McKinley Senior High School,  
12 where he was a member of the graduating class of 1964; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks succeeded both in and out of the classroom, excelling in  
14 academics and sports; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks was an All-American football player and captain of the  
16 track and field teams; and

17 WHEREAS, in his track events, Mr. Brooks was known for his speed, running the  
18 100-, 200-, and 400-yard dashes, the third leg on the 4x400 meter relay, and the anchor leg

1 on the 4x100 meter relay; and

2 WHEREAS, as a high school junior in 1963, Mr. Brooks was state champion in the  
3 100-yard dash; and

4 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks was also a part of the 1963-1964 District Champions Track  
5 & Field team, where he helped lead his team to victory; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks later took his talents to Grambling State University where  
7 he played football under the legendary Coach Eddie G. Robinson Sr.; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks was a member of the winning All-American Conference  
9 Championship team of 1965; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks was introduced to Jehovah Witness at an early age under  
11 the direction of his mother, and on December 18, 1993, he committed to the truth for  
12 himself, living twenty-nine years in the truth until his transition; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks attended the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses in Baton  
14 Rouge located on 22nd Street, and his faith was strong as he went door-to-door as a devoted  
15 Witness, preaching and teaching the good news of God's incoming kingdom according to  
16 Matthew 24:14; and

17 WHEREAS, service to others was Mr. Brooks' calling; "Coach Choo", as he was  
18 affectionately called by many, filled the roles of mentor, coach, advisor, and spiritual  
19 counselor through his commitment with the South Baton Rouge Rams, Keeping Young  
20 (K-Y) Track Club, BREC, and Sports Academy; and

21 WHEREAS, he served over forty years with the Lester Robinson BREC Sports  
22 Academy, retiring in 2013, but continuing to have a significant impact on youth in his  
23 community; and

24 WHEREAS, widely known as "Choo-Choo", Mr. Brooks was both a respected  
25 member of his community and a friend to the community in which he lived and served; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks married the love of his life, Martha King Brooks, on  
27 August 21, 1993, and they enjoyed the excellence of love found in 1 Corinthians 12:4-8 until  
28 her death; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Brooks was a father figure to many, sharing a unique bond with the  
30 Smothers children after the death of their mother; and

