

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY SENATOR DUPLESSIS

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of Carol Gelderman.

WHEREAS, it is with solemn regret and profound sorrow that the Senate has learned of the passing of Carol Gelderman on March 8, 2024, at the age of eighty-nine; and

WHEREAS, Carol Wettlaufer was born on December 2, 1936, in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, to Albert and Irene Wettlaufer; and

WHEREAS, in 1956, Carol earned an undergraduate degree at Manhattanville College in Purchase, New York, and in 1959, she married Gregory Anthony "Jay" Gelderman Jr. and had three children in four years; and

WHEREAS, after moving to Chicago, Illinois, she decided to return to college, selecting nearby Northwestern University, and earned masters and doctoral degrees; and

WHEREAS, in 1972, a year after her divorce, the recent doctoral graduate and single mother of three children accepted a job at the university then known as LSU in New Orleans to teach modern drama; and

WHEREAS, Carol Gelderman's thirty-three-year career at the University of New Orleans was capped when she was named Distinguished Professor of English; and

WHEREAS, during her academic career, Carol Gelderman authored eight books, including three biographies: *Henry Ford, the Wayward Capitalist*; *Mary McCarthy, A Life*; and *Louis Auchincloss, A Writer's Life*; and her strong interest in politics and government was reflected in her book *All The Presidents' Words: The Bully Pulpit and the Creation of the Virtual Presidency*; she also wrote dozens of articles on topics as varied as theater, biography, politics, and mutual funds; and

WHEREAS, Carol Gelderman lived in the French Quarter before moving to the Uptown area of New Orleans and she served several terms on the Vieux Carré Property Owners, Residents and Associates board and she was always eager to preserve the character of New Orleans' oldest neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, prior to her life in New Orleans, Carol was employed at the American Embassy in London and at television stations in the cities of Detroit and Chicago; and

WHEREAS, Carol was a member of the National Arts Club in New York City and was among the first women admitted to membership in the previously all-male Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Carol Gelderman on the occasion of her passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Carol Gelderman.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE