

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 128

BY SENATOR FIELDS

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Avis Delores Baker White.

WHEREAS, Avis Delores Baker White, a native and lifelong resident of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was born on June 5, 1927, and transitioned from this life on May 19, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Avis was the only child of the late William Alvin Baker and Gertrude "Gertie" Feast Baker; and

WHEREAS, Avis demonstrated academic excellence and leadership from a young age, graduating from McKinley High School in 1943 at the age of fifteen, and later being crowned as the Southern University Homecoming Queen for the 1946-47 academic year; and

WHEREAS, after completing her education at Southern University at the age of nineteen, Avis dedicated thirty-three years to educating the youth of East Baton Rouge Parish as a teacher at Scott Street Elementary and McKinley High School, where she taught typing, bookkeeping, and business classes; and

WHEREAS, Avis made significant contributions as the Distributive Education Coordinator during the 1970s, facilitating the integration of African-American students into the workforce by securing employment opportunities for them; and

WHEREAS, Avis was a passionate supporter of McKinley High School athletics and retired from her teaching career in 1979; and

WHEREAS, Avis was an active participant in politics, serving the Louisiana Democratic Party and running for the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board; and

WHEREAS, Avis was a devoted Christian and a member of both Living Faith Christian Center and later New St. John Baptist Church, where she was an Honorary Member of the Bookstore Ministry; and

WHEREAS, Avis' legacy is marked by her unwavering commitment to integrity, educational access, faith, and family; and

WHEREAS, at the time of her death, Avis was the oldest living Southern University Homecoming Queen, and was known for her leadership roles as president of the Alpha Tau Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, president of the Panhellenic Council, and secretary of the Student Government Association during her senior year; and

WHEREAS, Avis is survived by her son, Dana William White; daughters, Trudy Melita White and Robin Renee' White Clark (Marvin); grandsons, Donovan White (Tina), Stephen Clark (Megan), and Shawn J. Clark; granddaughters, Ashley Elizabeth White and Danielle White Hill (Leon); two great-grandsons, Maverick and Jett Clark; four great-granddaughters; other relatives, and a multitude of friends who will cherish her memory; and

WHEREAS, Avis was preceded in death by her ex-husband, Gilbert "Gilly" A. White; her parents, William Alvin Baker and Gertrude "Gertie" Feast Baker; her paternal grandparents, George and Mary "Momma" Frances Baker; and her maternal grandparents, Jacque "Jack" Feast (Feni) and Rosa Hollins Feast.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Avis Delores Baker White.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Avis Delores Baker White.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE