

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 319

BY REPRESENTATIVE WILFORD CARTER

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Maudrie Peters Jones Ross.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing of Maudrie Peters Jones Ross; and

WHEREAS, Maudrie was born on September 13, 1933, to Emile Peters, Sr., and Maude Andrews Peters, the oldest of their twelve children; she accepted Christ in 1941 under the pastoral care and leadership of Reverend W.C. Clark at Christian Baptist Church, and she was baptized in the Calcasieu River; and

WHEREAS, Maudrie grew up in Christian Baptist Church and remained a member until her passing; she served in numerous capacities including with the Sunshine Band, Junior Red Circle, gospel choir, adult choir, and sanctuary choir; she also served as the supervisor of the church's Matron's Department Circle, assistant superintendent of the Sunday School Department, and vice president of the Deaconess Board; she held the distinction as the first-ever female member of the church's board of directors; and

WHEREAS, Maudrie was educated in several schools during her youth; she attended First Ward Colored School and Second Ward Colored School, and she graduated from W.O. Boston High School in 1952; she later graduated from Sowela Technical Institute as a stenography major; and

WHEREAS, Maudrie was first married to the late Adam B. Jones, who passed away at the young age of forty; in 1973, she married Wilbert O. Ross, Sr., and their marriage lasted more than two decades before his passing; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ross was active in many civic organizations and served in a variety of capacities; she was a past matron of Esther Grand Chapter Order of Eastern Star, Prince Hall Queen of the Southeastern Star Chapter #14, member of the Golden Circle John J. Lewis #165, and more; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ross held a variety of jobs throughout her life; she was among the first African Americans to work as a salesperson at the first Dollar Store in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and she oversaw the material and shoe departments; she worked for Keystone Life Insurance as a sales associate and Montgomery Ward as a department manager; and

WHEREAS, in 1973, Ms. Ross was hired as the first African American stenographer at the Calcasieu Parish School Board; she worked as a sales tax clerk and retired after twenty years of service; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Ross loved music, singing, cooking, and providing plates of home-cooked food to the sick and shut in; she leaves to cherish her memory her daughter, Kim Jones Pete; sons, Kenneth Jones (Cynthia), Keith Jones (Mary), and Patrick Peters (Audrey); daughter-in-love, Vickie Jones; twenty grandchildren; more than forty great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren; sisters; Linda Grice (Wilmer) and Carolyn Peters; brother, John Alvin Peters; and a host of bonus children, nieces, nephews, extended relatives, and friends; she will be deeply missed but certainly never forgotten.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Maudrie Peters Jones Ross and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that her family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of her beautiful life.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES