SLS 25RS-484 ORIGINAL

2025 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 97

BY SENATOR MIZELL

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere condolences upon the passing of James Mason Ballard Sr.

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of
3	Louisiana upon the passing of James Mason Ballard Sr.
4	WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound sorrow that the members of
5	the Senate and the citizens of Louisiana have learned of the death of James Mason Ballard
6	Sr. on March 4, 2025; and
7	WHEREAS, James Mason Ballard Sr. was born in Monroe, Louisiana, on June 21,
8	1931, and was instilled with the values of hard work, integrity, and service to others, and
9	these values shaped his lifelong dedication to both his country and his community; and
10	WHEREAS, James Mason Ballard Sr. joined the United States Navy, where he was
11	stationed aboard the USS Agerholm (DD-826) before being honorably discharged and
12	pursuing a career that would impact generations to come; and
13	WHEREAS, he earned his Bachelor of Science in Education from Southern
14	University and A&M College, where he went on to dedicate thirty-one years to shaping
15	young minds, particularly at Pine High School, where his influence stretched far beyond the
16	classroom as he guided guiding students toward brighter futures with wisdom, patience, and
17	a deep belief in their potential; and
18	WHEREAS, James, a man of unwavering faith, was a dedicated member of Holy

SLS 25RS-484 **ORIGINAL** SR NO. 97

Family Catholic Church in Franklinton, Louisiana, where his service and commitment to his
faith community earned him induction into the Order of St. Louis IX in 2003; and
WHEREAS, his dedication to public service and strengthening his community was
evident and continued throughout his life with his involvement in various organizations,
including the Rural Franklinton Water Corporation Board, where he was a founding
member, the Knights of Columbus (4th Degree), the American Legion, American
Association of Retired Persons, the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association, and the
National Association of Educators; and
WHEREAS, James Mason Ballard Sr. leaves behind to cherish his memory his
loving wife, Ruby Nelle Harrison Ballard; his children grandchildren; great-grandchildren;
and former students and colleagues; and
WHEREAS, his unwavering dedication to his family, students, his faith, and
community represents the very best of Washington Parish and the state, and leaves a legacy
that will continue to inspire and shape the future of generations to come.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the passing of James Mason
Ballard Sr.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ruby
Nelle Harrison Ballard.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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