

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 318

BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Charles B.

"Charlie" Rangel.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing, on May 26, 2025, of Charles B. "Charlie" Rangel; and

WHEREAS, Charles B. "Charlie" Rangel was born on June 11, 1930, in the Harlem neighborhood of Upper Manhattan; he enlisted in the United States Army and served during the Korean War, earning a Bronze Star for valor and Purple Heart; and

WHEREAS, after completing his military service, Mr. Rangel graduated from New York University in 1957 and St. John's University Law School in 1960; he worked as a private attorney, assistant U.S. attorney, and legal counsel before entering the world of politics; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rangel served as a United States congressman from New York City for forty-six years and was the first African American to serve as chair of the House Ways and Means Committee; during his nearly five-decade tenure in congress, he earned a reputation for his frankness and sense of humor, his ability to work with others, and his support of progressive policies; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rangel was a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus and forged a legacy of fighting for justice and opportunity in black communities; his legislative accomplishments include championing the national Empowerment Zone program, Affordable Care Act, Low Income Housing Tax Credit, American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, and the "Rangel Amendment" that helped ensure the end of Apartheid in South Africa; he was recognized by the Jackie Robinson Foundation and presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Charles B. "Charlie" Rangel was an incredible public servant whose life and career were defined by his genuine commitment to the United States and its citizens; he will be deeply missed, but the legacy of his service to the country shall live on in perpetuity in the hearts and minds of those who were privileged to have known and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Charles B. "Charlie" Rangel; does hereby extend enduring appreciation for his military service and for his service as a United States congressman; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that his family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of his beautiful life.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES