

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 22

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARPENTER

CONDOLENCES: Expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of D'Orsay Deavenport Bryant, Jr., M.D.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of D'Orsay
3 Deavenport Bryant, Jr., M.D.

4 WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of
5 Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing, on February 20,
6 2026, of D'Orsay Deavenport Bryant, Jr., M.D.; and

7 WHEREAS, D'Orsay Deavenport Bryant, Jr., was born on September 9, 1932, to
8 Cecil Barbara McIntosh and D'Orsay D. Bryant, Sr., in Washington, D.C.; he grew up in the
9 nation's capital and attended the historic Dunbar High School, which he credits with
10 instilling in him a lifelong respect for education; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant attended Howard University, where he was elected to serve
12 as president of the freshman class, was named to the Dean's List and various honor societies,
13 and joined the Xi Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant graduated in 1954 and entered the Howard University
15 School of Medicine, where he excelled academically and was inducted into the Alpha
16 Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society; he graduated from medical school in 1958 and began
17 an internship at Freedmen's Hospital and a residency in obstetrics and gynecology at
18 Freedmen's and D.C. General Hospitals; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant fulfilled his ROTC obligation and began service as a captain
20 in the United States Army; he was stationed at Fort Dix in New Jersey and served from 1963
21 to 1965; after completing his military service, he relocated to Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and

1 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant established an obstetrics and gynecology practice in 1965
2 and flourished as a medical provider who delivered generations of babies in Baton Rouge
3 and the surrounding areas; for ten years he served as the only Black board-certified OB-
4 GYN in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas; and

5 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant took great pride in being credentialed at the highest level of
6 his area of specialization; he served as a diplomate of the American Board of Obstetricians
7 and Gynecologists and as a fellow of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology;
8 in addition to his private practice, he served as a clinical instructor of obstetrics and
9 gynecology at the Louisiana State University College of Medicine from 1966 to 1981; and

10 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant was an incredibly civic-minded and engaged citizen in the
11 Baton Rouge community; he was an active member of the NAACP and served as the
12 president of the Baton Rouge branch from 1966 to 1980; his activism included pursuing
13 educational equity for students of color in East Baton Rouge Parish, and he was a plaintiff-
14 inteventor in one of the last desegregation suits in East Baton Rouge Parish; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant established the Acadian Women's Clinic in 1978; the clinic
16 served as an extension of his medical practice and offered access to comprehensive
17 reproductive services when legalized in the state; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant was a fervent supporter of community-based health
19 initiatives, including the Stop Rape Crisis Team and the NAACP's National Health
20 Committee, and he served as a board member of the Sickle Cell Anemia Foundation and the
21 Baton Rouge Cancer Society; and

22 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant assumed numerous leadership roles in professional
23 organizations; he served as vice president of the Louisiana State Health Coordinating
24 Council in 1975; president of the East Baton Rouge Parish Medical Association in 1974,
25 1982, and 1984; president of the Louisiana State Medical Association in 1970 and 1985; and
26 on the Louisiana State Medical Care Advisory Committee in 1974; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant's social and civic affiliations included Kappa Alpha Psi
28 Fraternity, Inc.; Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, Alpha Xi Boule; the East Baton Rouge Chamber
29 of Commerce; Masonic: East End Lodge 209, Baton Rouge Consistory No. 179; Shiners,
30 Ishmael Temple, Baton Rouge; and the 33rd Degree United Supreme Council; he garnered

1 numerous civic awards and citations for his activities in civil rights and youth-related
2 activities; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Bryant is survived by his wife, Kathy Weaver Bryant; children, Dr.
4 D'Orsay Deavenport Bryant, III (Karen); Sharon Bryant Zimmerman (James); Sherri Bryant-
5 Moore; Leighton Butler Bryant (Sharri Lynn); Damon Allen Bryant; Dorian Lamar
6 Matthews; Drexel LaSalle Matthews; and D'Orci DeShay Bryant; stepsons, Aaron Mitchell
7 Weaver and Neil Clifton Weaver; grandchildren, D'Orsay Deavenport Bryant, IV; Carter
8 Ashton Fabre Bryant (Haley); Claire Estelle Moore; Kristin Dollison Moore; Olivia Alexis
9 Zimmerman; Nicolas Jordan Zimmerman; Leia Briana Bryant; Davin Bryant; Brenden
10 Bryant; and Devereaux London Matthews; great-grandchild, Josiah Moore; sisters-in-law,
11 Hedi M. Butler, Nina Mitchell Wells (Ted), Vicki Mitchell Pendleton, and Lauren A. Smith
12 (James Boll); brothers-in-law, Eric I. Mitchell (Carmen) and J. Peter Mitchell (Pat); nieces,
13 Lynn Whitfield, Kimberleigh Butler-Smith, Shawne Langston Emery, and Donna Pierce
14 Lazarchik; and nephews, Duane D. Pierce and Clifton F. Nelson, III; and

15 WHEREAS, Dr. D'Orsay Deavenport Bryant, Jr., was a pioneer in the field of
16 medicine and a dedicated servant of the citizens of Louisiana; he will be deeply missed, but
17 the legacy of his service shall live in perpetuity in the hearts and minds of those who were
18 privileged to have known and loved him.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of D'Orsay
21 Deavenport Bryant, Jr., M.D.; does hereby extend enduring appreciation for his incredible
22 contributions as a medical professional and community advocate in Louisiana; and does
23 hereby offer sincere wishes that his family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their
24 shared memories of his beautiful life.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, 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)]

HR 22 Original

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