

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 165

BY REPRESENTATIVE JORDAN

CONDOLENCES: Expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Ray Helen Lawrence

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Ray Helen  
3 Lawrence.

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 April 13,  
6 2026, of Ray Helen Lawrence; and

7 WHEREAS, Ms. Lawrence was the first African-American woman appointed and  
8 then elected to the Port Allen City Council; in 2013, she served as the city's mayor pro  
9 tempore; and

10 WHEREAS, Ms. Lawrence served Port Allen for twenty years, and her service was  
11 a testament to the trust placed in her by the community; one of her proudest achievements  
12 was the establishment of the city's annual Juneteenth celebration; and

13 WHEREAS, Ms. Lawrence extended her service beyond the council chambers; she  
14 led volunteers at Port Allen Cemetery, where residents mowed, picked up litter, pressure  
15 washed, and painted abandoned tombs; and

16 WHEREAS, in addition to her time in public office, Ms. Lawrence dedicated more  
17 than thirty years of service educating students across West Baton Rouge Parish; she was a  
18 science teacher who brought the curriculum to life and arranged field trips to the John C.  
19 Stennis Space Center in Mississippi; and

20 WHEREAS, Ray Helen Lawrence made an indelible impact on the Port Allen  
21 community, and though she will be deeply missed, her legacy of love and service to the city,

1 its residents, and her students shall live on in perpetuity in the hearts and minds of those who  
2 were privileged to have known and loved her.

3       THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Ray  
5 Helen Lawrence; does hereby extend enduring appreciation for her outstanding contributions  
6 to the city of Port Allen as public office holder, educator, and community servant; and does  
7 hereby extend sincere wishes that her family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their  
8 shared memories of her beautiful life.

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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)]

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HR 165 Original

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Jordan

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