

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 146

BY SENATOR MIGUEZ

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of Louis "Thomas" Nelson.

WHEREAS, it is with great regret that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing of Louis "Thomas" Nelson, a beloved husband, father, brother, grandfather, and respected leader, on April 25, 2026 at the age of eighty-nine; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Nelson's life was dedicated to public service, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to helping others; and

WHEREAS, a devoted public servant for nearly forty years, Thomas believed that true leadership meant showing up for the community every single day, and he exemplified that belief throughout his career, including serving for twenty-six years as a police juror, tirelessly representing St. Martinville and the Cade area, as well as for twelve years as the mayor of the city of St. Martinville, where he governed with steadfast leadership; and

WHEREAS, Thomas worked diligently on behalf of his constituents to establish the Cade Water System, ensuring families in the area have access to this essential resource for years to come, and to build and maintain the Cade Community Center, which continues to serve as a hub for community life; and

WHEREAS, beyond his elected service, Thomas dedicated over forty years to bus driving for the St. Martin Parish School Board, touching the lives of countless students with his kindness, dedication, and care, and he also owned and operated Nelson's Lawnmower Repair Shop and Service Station, continuing to serve the people of his beloved community; and

WHEREAS, Thomas was leader, trusted friend, and pillar of the community, where he was known for his kind heart and generous spirit, creating a lasting impact for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of sixty-seven years, Ursula St. Andre' Nelson; daughters, Francisca Taylor (Carrol), Lisa Nelson, Vonda LeBlanc, and Sherri Sigue (Lurry); brothers, Lloyd Nelson, John Nelson, and McKinley Nelson (Nam); and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Louis "Thomas" Nelson lived his life with dignity and humility, always placing family, faith, and service above all else, and his legacy will live on in the countless lives he touched with his wisdom and kindness as well as in the strong and vibrant community he helped build.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Louis "Thomas" Nelson upon his passing and does hereby commend his dedication to public service and his many accomplishments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Louis "Thomas" Nelson.

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE