

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 363

BY REPRESENTATIVE MURRAY

CONDOLENCES: Expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Reverend James C. Carter, S.J., Ph.D., Jesuit priest, physicist, and the longest-serving president of Loyola University New Orleans

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Reverend
3 James C. Carter, S.J., Ph.D., Jesuit priest, physicist, and the longest-serving president
4 of Loyola University New Orleans.

5 WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of
6 Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing, on May 22, 2026,
7 of the Reverend James C. Carter, S.J., Ph.D.; and

8 WHEREAS, James C. Carter was born in 1927 in New York to Louisiana natives and
9 was the oldest of three boys; as a teenager, he attended St. Stanislaus High School, a
10 boarding school in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi; and

11 WHEREAS, he spent one year as a student at Loyola University New Orleans before
12 entering the Jesuit novitiate at Grand Coteau in 1945; he earned a bachelor's degree in
13 physics from Spring Hill College, a master's degree from Fordham University, and a
14 doctorate in physics from the Catholic University of America; his academic studies were
15 focused on nuclear physics, evolution, and religion; and

16 WHEREAS, after being ordained a Jesuit priest in 1958, Father Carter returned to
17 Loyola in 1960 to teach physics; he was named provost and academic vice president in 1970
18 and became the fourteenth president of the university in 1974; and

19 WHEREAS, Father Carter dedicated more than six decades of service to Loyola as
20 a student, professor, priest, administrator, and president; he served as president from 1974

1 to 1995 and guided the university through a period of significant academic growth and
2 institutional advancement while remaining steadfastly committed to its Jesuit and Catholic
3 identity; and

4 WHEREAS, after retiring from the presidency in 1995, Father Carter became
5 Loyola's first chancellor; he then served as pastor and superior of the Jesuit community from
6 2001 to 2004 and later returned as a pastoral minister and part-time professor to continue his
7 lifelong commitment to mentoring students; and

8 WHEREAS, Father Carter served the broader New Orleans community through
9 leadership roles with the Metropolitan Area Committee and National Conference for
10 Community and Justice; and

11 WHEREAS, Father Carter transitioned to a ministry of prayer in 2020; he first served
12 at the St. Alphonsus Rodriguez Pavilion in Grand Coteau, Louisiana, and later at St. Ignatius
13 Hall in Florissant, Missouri; and

14 WHEREAS, Father Carter received numerous honors in recognition of his
15 scholarship and service, including an honorary doctorate from Loyola University New
16 Orleans in 1995; and

17 WHEREAS, the Reverend James C. Carter, S.J., Ph.D., will be deeply missed, but
18 the legacy of his outstanding service to Loyola University New Orleans, the New Orleans
19 community, and the Jesuit Order shall live on in perpetuity in the hearts and minds of those
20 who were privileged enough to have known and loved him.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
22 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of the
23 Reverend James C. Carter, S.J., Ph.D., Jesuit priest, physicist, and the longest-serving
24 president of Loyola University New Orleans; does hereby express enduring appreciation for
25 his incredible dedication and service to Loyola and its students; and does hereby extend
26 sincere wishes that his family, friends, former colleagues, and loved ones find comfort in
27 their 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 363 Original	2026 Regular Session	Murray
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Expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of the Rev. James C. Carter, S.J., Ph.D., Jesuit priest, physicist, and the longest-serving president of Loyola University.