SLS 19RS-17

ORIGINAL

2019 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the passing of Duane Ebarb, disabilities advocate from Shreveport.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3	passing of Duane K. Ebarb of Shreveport, a kind and caring individual who worked
4	tirelessly as a champion for the rights of the disabled as a consultant, public servant,
5	educator, administrator, and friend.
6	WHEREAS, Duane Kenneth Ebarb passed peacefully from this life on Thursday,
7	September 6, 2018, at the age of sixty-nine; and
8	WHEREAS, he was an exuberant and lifelong crusader for the concerns of the
9	physically handicapped, mentally disabled, and the elderly; he improved the quality of life
10	for disabled individuals, in particular, through the enhanced availability and ready access of
11	public services, housing, education, and economic opportunity; and
12	WHEREAS, Duane Ebarb experienced firsthand the obstacles and limitations placed
13	upon the physically disabled by society having been wheelchair-bound after experiencing
14	a spinal cord injury as a young adult; and
15	WHEREAS, during his lifetime Duane had a far-reaching effect on the removal of
16	barriers that inhibited the access of the handicapped to all manner of public services and
17	opportunities; and
18	WHEREAS, a graduate of Woodlawn High School in Shreveport, Duane rose to the

SLS 19RS-17

ORIGINAL SCR NO. 24

rank of colonel in Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) and was the top ranked cadet
 in Caddo Parish; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Duane looked forward to military service and volunteered for the United States Marine Corps; an unfortunate accident left him paralyzed and prevented his service, however, he was a patriot and remained a strong supporter of those who served in the military; and

- WHEREAS, he faced life fearlessly and did not let anyone or anything stand in his
 way; he led a full life instilled with ambition and fortitude to follow his dreams and become
 a contributing member of the community; and
- WHEREAS, Duane Ebarb persevered despite his disabilities to complete a bachelor
 of arts degree from LSU-S in 1978; and
- WHEREAS, his tenure as a support services advocate included positions as a member of the board of directors of the New Horizons Independent Living Center, president of the Shreveport Mayor's Advisory Council for Persons with Disabilities, and region leader of Louisiana Citizens for Action Now (LaCAN); and
- WHEREAS, Governor John Bel Edwards appointed him to serve on the board of the
 Northwest Louisiana Human Services District as a proponent for individuals with
 developmental disabilities; and
- WHEREAS, Duane was honored with receipt of the Governor's Outstanding
 Leadership in Disabilities Ken Vince Memorial Award in 2008 and received Mayor Cedric
 Glover's Award for Excellence in Leadership in Disabilities in 2009; and
- WHEREAS, Duane also served on the board of directors for ThinkFirst of the
 Ark-La-Tex, an organization that promotes injury prevention education; and
- WHEREAS, Duane Ebarb was a frequent spokesman for the rights of the disabled; he advocated the tenets of independent living and lobbied local and state lawmakers concerning the availability of community-based support services for the disabled; and
- WHEREAS, with his affable demeanor Duane Ebarb acted as the catalyst to "keep in touch" with his Woodlawn High School classmates; he was that connection who kept everyone informed and involved over the decades since graduation; and
- 30 WHEREAS, his accomplishments, both great and small, may seem incidental to the

1	able-bodied, however, to the physically challenged these improvements were uplifting and
2	life-changing, particularly for adults with disabilities who sought to live independently; and
3	WHEREAS, Duane was an active member of Christ United Methodist Church and
4	served on numerous committees; at his funeral the Reverend Mark Goins eulogized that he
5	was an individual who loved large and lived out loud and whose determination knew no
6	disability; and
7	WHEREAS, Duane Ebarb embraced a certain joie de vivre, the joy of life that was
8	reflected in his belief that his physical limitations were lessened by the capacity of his mind
9	to dream and his heart to love; and
10	WHEREAS, Duane shall be fondly remembered for his unselfish acts of kindness,
11	determination, and his lifetime of significant contributions of improved accessibility and
12	support services afforded to the disabled citizens of his community and state.
13	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
14	express sincere condolences on the passing of Duane K. Ebarb of Shreveport, an advocate
15	for those individuals with disabilities and a person blessed with an immeasurable capacity
16	for empathy for his fellow man.
17	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his
18	mother, Elaine Ebarb.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Susan P. Montague.

SCR 24 Original

DIGEST 2019 Regular Session

Peacock

Expresses condolences upon the passing of Duane Ebarb, disabilities advocate from Shreveport.