

2020 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 3

BY REPRESENTATIVES SCHEXNAYDER, ADAMS, AMEDEE, BACALA, BAGLEY, BEAULLIEU, BISHOP, BOURRIAQUE, BRASS, BROWN, BRYANT, BUTLER, CARPENTER, CARRIER, GARY CARTER, ROBBY CARTER, WILFORD CARTER, CORMIER, COUSSAN, COX, CREWS, DAVIS, DESHOTEL, DEVILLIER, DUBUISSON, DUPLESSIS, DWIGHT, ECHOLS, EDMONDS, EDMONSTON, EMERSON, FARNUM, FIRMENT, FONTENOT, FREEMAN, FREIBERG, FRIEMAN, GADBERRY, GAINES, GAROFALO, GLOVER, GOUDEAU, GREEN, HARRIS, HENRY, HILFERTY, HODGES, HOLLIS, HORTON, HUGHES, HUVAL, ILLG, IVEY, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, MIKE JOHNSON, TRAVIS JOHNSON, JONES, JORDAN, KERNER, LACOMBE, LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MACK, MAGEE, MARCELLE, MARINO, MCCORMICK, MCFARLAND, MCKNIGHT, MCMAHEN, MIGUEZ, DUSTIN MILLER, GREGORY MILLER, MINCEY, MOORE, MUSCARELLO, NELSON, NEWELL, CHARLES OWEN, ROBERT OWEN, PHELPS, PIERRE, PRESSLY, RISER, ROMERO, SCHAMERHORN, SEABAUGH, SELDERS, ST. BLANC, STAGNI, STEFANSKI, TARVER, THOMAS, THOMPSON, TURNER, VILLIO, WHEAT, WHITE, WILLARD, WRIGHT, AND ZERINGUE

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences upon the death of Ernest D. Wooton, former state representative and former sheriff of Plaquemines Parish

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Ernest D. Wooton, former
3 state representative and former sheriff of Plaquemines Parish.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the
5 Louisiana House of Representatives have learned of the death of Ernest D. Wooton, former
6 state representative and former sheriff of Plaquemines Parish, on May 29, 2020, at the age
7 of seventy-eight, in Belle Chasse, Louisiana; and

8 WHEREAS, a native of Plaquemines Parish and a graduate of Port Sulphur High
9 School, Ernest Wooton attended Louisiana State University and Northwestern State
10 University; after serving in the United States Army from 1964 until 1966, he was an
11 insurance agency manager and then worked in public relations for oilfield sales; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Wooton began his long and productive career in public service in
13 1984 with his election as sheriff of Plaquemines Parish; during his two terms as sheriff, he

1 was admired for his highly effective leadership and made many significant contributions to
2 the community, including founding the Plaquemines Parish sheriff's office shooting
3 range/junior deputy grounds in Myrtle Grove and establishing the Special Olympics in the
4 parish; and

5 WHEREAS, following his service as sheriff, Ernest Wooton became a widely
6 respected legislator, serving with excellence as the state representative for District No. 105
7 from 1999-2012, during which time he fully used every opportunity to serve the citizens of
8 his district and the state in an honorable and dedicated manner; and

9 WHEREAS, Representative Wooton's diligent committee service included serving
10 as chairman of the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice, as vice
11 chairman of the House Committee on Environment, and as a member of the House
12 Committee on Homeland Security and the Joint Committee on Homeland Security; he also
13 served as a member of the Acadiana Delegation, the Jefferson Parish Legislative Delegation,
14 and the Louisiana Rural Caucus; and

15 WHEREAS, during his time in the House of Representatives, Representative Wooton
16 worked on and supported many important pieces of legislation, was a steadfast advocate for
17 law enforcement, education, and coastal restoration issues, and was unwavering in his efforts
18 to improve the welfare of his constituents in Plaquemines, Jefferson, and St. Charles
19 parishes; and

20 WHEREAS, throughout the halls of the state capitol, Representative Wooton was
21 known as a man of his word who had a special talent for diffusing tense moments during
22 legislative proceedings with his trademark humor and as a representative who accomplished
23 much by the sheer force of his own personal credibility and integrity; and

24 WHEREAS, though Mr. Wooton maintained a somewhat tough exterior, he was a
25 man of compassion and concern for his fellow man; he cared about those he served with in
26 the legislature regardless of their political affiliation and was a source of solid support and
27 advice to his colleagues and staff; and

28 WHEREAS, in 2011, Sheriff Wooton was inducted into the Louisiana Justice Hall
29 of Fame, which was founded to recognize individuals who have served the state of Louisiana
30 in law enforcement, corrections, criminal justice, and civil service with great distinction; and

1 WHEREAS, a truly beloved member of his community, Mr. Wooton was a member
2 of the American Legion, Knights of Columbus, and Alcoholics Anonymous, and he took
3 great pride in his twenty-seven years of sobriety; and

4 WHEREAS, Ernest Wooton was patriotic to the core and was passionate when
5 expressing his love and appreciation for America and her ideals and when reminding others
6 of the debt of gratitude owed to all who have served and fought for this country; and

7 WHEREAS, above all, Ernest Wooton was a family man who loved spending time
8 with his wife, children, and grandchildren; he enthusiastically attended their graduations,
9 baseball games, dance recitals, and other activities, often traveling to support them and cheer
10 for them in their endeavors; he left an indelible mark not only on their lives but on the lives
11 of all who knew and loved him and were touched by his loyalty, charisma, great wit, abiding
12 faith, strength of character, and generosity of spirit; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Wooton is survived by his wife of fifty-three years, Linda Green
14 Wooton; his children, Jeffrey J. Wooton, and his wife Peggy, Kimberly Wooton Culpepper,
15 and her husband Marvin, and John Dade Wooton, and his wife Therese; his grandchildren
16 and step-grandchildren, Jacob Wooton, Gavin Culpepper, and his wife Averi, Bailey
17 Culpepper, John Dade Wooton II, Ella Wooton, Blake Culpepper, Megan Torres, and her
18 husband Gus, and Erin Ness; his great-grandson and step-great-grandchildren; Ace
19 Culpepper, Tyler Elmer, Riley Elmer, Cruz Torres, and Chloe Torres; and his sister, JoAnn
20 Wooton Defley; and

21 WHEREAS, with the death of Ernest Wooton, the state has lost one of her finest
22 sons, a man who will be remembered by all who were lucky enough to know him, including
23 the members of the House family, all of whom mourn the loss of this wonderful man who
24 served this institution and this state so well.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
26 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the
27 death of Ernest D. Wooton, former state representative and former sheriff of Plaquemines
28 Parish; does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable accomplishments and
29 singular contributions during his tenure as a distinguished member of the Louisiana House
30 of Representatives; and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and honor

1 that this wonderful man will forever bring to his family, his community, and the state of
2 Louisiana.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
4 family of Ernest D. Wooton.

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 3 Original	2020 First Extraordinary Session	Schexnayder
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