

2020 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 18

BY REPRESENTATIVES THOMPSON AND ECHOLS

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Samuel P. Scurria, M.D.

WHEREAS, the community of Delhi, Louisiana, and the members of the House of Representatives were saddened to learn of the death of Samuel Philip Scurria, on June 5, 2020, at the age of eighty-four; and

WHEREAS, Samuel Scurria was born to Nettie Veronica Dichiara and Philip Samuel Scurria, Sr., on November 21, 1935, in Tallulah, Louisiana; in 1961, Samuel Scurria graduated from Louisiana State University Medical School, and upon completion of an internship at Charity Hospital in New Orleans, Dr. Sam served his country in the U.S. Air Force in Shreveport and Lake Charles; and

WHEREAS, the personal and professional life of Dr. Sam was rich and fruitful; he and his high school sweetheart, Joyce Christine King, were married for more than sixty years, and for thirty-eight years, he maintained a general medical practice that included surgery, ob-gyn, pediatric, geriatric, and emergency medical care in Delhi; Dr. Sam found true satisfaction in his role as a rural physician, and his penchant for making house calls endeared him to his patients; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Scurria combined his call to medicine with volunteerism in his Delhi community, organizing emergency preparedness drills, serving on the Richland Parish Hospital board of directors, and providing medical care as the Delhi High School football team doctor; and

WHEREAS, when he was not attending to medical duties, Dr. Sam was a whirlwind of activity and enjoyed fishing, hunting, and golf; he was a founding member of Antique Cars in Delhi and regularly showed his restored 1928 Ford Model A and 1941 Lincoln

Zephyr at homecoming and stock show parades; a collector of arrowheads, Dr. Sam was a member of the Gem and Mineral Club; he worked with wood as a furniture designer, and he carved wildlife, wall hangings, and bird houses; and

WHEREAS, an accomplished musician, Dr. Sam played alto and tenor saxophone with the St. Joe Jazzers, the St. Joe Orchestra, and at his beloved Delhi Presbyterian Church; Dr. Sam also was a gifted painter, and two of his pieces were published in the January 2008 edition of the *Journal of the Louisiana State Medical Society*; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sam delighted in entertaining family and friends, and his sense of humor, enthusiasm, and energy made memorable his presence in every setting; he was a powerfully positive influence on those with whom he interacted; and

WHEREAS, the absence of Samuel P. Scurria is deeply felt by his wife, Joyce; his children, Philip, and his wife Cindy, Catherine Scurria Gough, and her husband Steve, Mark, and his wife DeAnn, and Juliette Scurria Blades, and her husband Gene; siblings Philip, and his wife Peggy, and Thomas, and his wife Teresa; grandchildren Gregory, Bryndi, Mary, Stephanie, Stuart, Bradley, Jacee, Victoria, Kelly, and Maria and their spouses; great-grandchildren Layton, Brody, Caroline, and Leo; Dr. Sam's legacy of duty and devotion will endure through the lives of his family and friends.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences on the death of Dr. Samuel P. Scurria; does hereby acknowledge the exemplary work of his life in medicine to the benefit of his patients and his contributions to his community of Delhi; and does hereby offer hopes for comfort and peace to family and friends who mourn the loss of this dynamic and gifted Louisiana native son.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Dr. Samuel Scurria.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES