

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY SENATOR FOIL

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere condolences upon the death of Rt. Rev. James Malone Coleman.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3 death of Rt. Reverend James Malone Coleman.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana
5 learned of the death of Rt. Reverend James Malone Coleman on May 4, 2020; and

6 WHEREAS, James Malone Coleman was born on August 26, 1929, to Frederick L.
7 Coleman Sr. and Mary Carter Hughes Coleman, in Memphis, Tennessee; and

8 WHEREAS, he attended Christian Brothers High School and graduated in 1947; and

9 WHEREAS, after serving in the United States Army, he continued his education at
10 the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and later obtained a Master of Divinity at The
11 University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee; and

12 WHEREAS, Bishop Coleman also received a Doctorate of Ministry from the
13 Seminary of the Southwest at Wake Forest University, and after his ordination in 1957, he
14 served as priest in the towns of Lebanon, Gallatin, Johnson City, and Memphis, Tennessee,
15 as well as Martinsville, Virginia; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1975, he was called to serve as rector of St. James Episcopal Church
17 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where he remained until 1989; and

18 WHEREAS, in 1993, while Bishop Coleman was serving as rector of St. James

1 Episcopal Church in Memphis, he was elected Bishop Coadjutor of the Diocese of West
2 Tennessee and remained as its Bishop from 1994 until his retirement in 2001; and

3 WHEREAS, he returned to Baton Rouge and to St. James Episcopal Church in 2005,
4 serving as Bishop-in-Residence until 2020; and

5 WHEREAS, Bishop Coleman strived to deepen the spiritual life of the faithful and
6 called on his congregations to foster transformation and new life, and urged them to be
7 attentive to the needs of the community; and

8 WHEREAS, a kind and devout man of humble spirit, deep integrity, wry humor, and
9 enormous strength and intelligence, he formed many treasured relationships with fellow
10 clergy, staff, and parishioners in each place he served, forging bonds that lasted a lifetime;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Bishop Coleman loved the outdoors and he held close the memories of
13 daring, work-intensive adventure as a smokejumper for the United States Forestry Service
14 in the Pacific Northwest, where during college summers he parachuted into remote mountain
15 areas to extinguish forest fires usually caused by lightning during thunderstorms; and

16 WHEREAS, he hiked the Appalachian Trail with his sons and friends every year for
17 more than forty years; he loved nature and found it in abundance along the Trail with its
18 wildflowers, trees, animals, and other hikers; and

19 WHEREAS, one of Bishop Coleman's crowning outdoor achievements was a trek
20 to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania on a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Africa in 1989;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of fifteen years, Douglass Stewart Coleman;
23 three sons, Jamie Coleman, Carter Coleman, and Jonathan Coleman; and three
24 granddaughters, Kelly Keffer, Cleo Coleman, and Ondine Coleman; and

25 WHEREAS, Bishop Coleman was preceded in death by his first wife of forty-five
26 years, Mary Carter Hughes Coleman; his parents, Frederick L. Coleman Sr. and Doris Cloar
27 Jacobs; and his brother, Frederick L Coleman Jr.; and

28 WHEREAS, the death of Rt. Reverend James Malone Coleman has left a substantial
29 void in his community and a sense of loss in the citizens whose lives he touched, and his
30 memory shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all those who knew and loved this

1 remarkable gentleman.

2 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
3 does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Rt. Reverend James
4 Malone Coleman, and does hereby commend and record for posterity his outstanding
5 achievements, and extend enduring appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor that he
6 will forever bring to his community, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of
7 America.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
9 family of Rt. Reverend James Malone Coleman.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

DIGEST

SR 15 Original

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Foil

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