

2021 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 82

BY SENATORS PRICE, BARROW AND FIELDS

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences on the death of Ernest Stephens.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Ernest C. Stephens, AFL- CIO Political Director.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of Ernest Stephens; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Stephens was born and raised in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, educated in the East Baton Rouge School System, graduated from Capitol High School, and attended Southern University; and

WHEREAS, he became a board member of Construction and General Laborers Local 1177 in January 1976, worked on a number of construction and maintenance jobs, and held positions from general laborer to shift supervisor and job steward; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Stephens was appointed to the Executive Board of Laborers Local 1177 in 1992 after serving as an auditor for four years; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, he was appointed Union President and served until 2000 when he became Business Manager of Construction & General Laborers Local 1177 until 2008; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Ernest Stephens began working for the Louisiana AFL-CIO where he served as Assistant to the President and Statewide Political Director; and

1 WHEREAS, he worked to coordinate relief efforts between the Unions & American
2 Red Cross during numerous Louisiana disasters; and

3 WHEREAS, Ernest Stephens was married to Irma Stephens for twenty-five years and
4 they had four children and seven grandchildren and he attended the Greater New Guide
5 Baptist Church; and

6 WHEREAS, he served as a board member of the Baton Rouge Workforce Investment
7 Board, Capital Area United Way, and Louisiana A. Philip Randolph Institute and also served
8 as treasurer of the Baton Rouge Building & Construction Trades Council, as well as being
9 a former chairman of the East Baton Rouge Council on Aging and former President of the
10 Greater Baton Rouge AFL-CIO; and

11 WHEREAS, he dedicated his life to improving the lives of hard-working men and
12 women across Louisiana; and

13 WHEREAS, Ernest Stephens was a man of great integrity, well-liked, known for
14 being generous with his kindness and wisdom, and a fierce advocate for social and economic
15 justice; and

16 WHEREAS, he was a forever friend to those needing a mentor, greeting everyone
17 he met with love and respect; and

18 WHEREAS, the success of the state of Louisiana, the strength of our communities,
19 and the overall vitality of American society depend in great measure upon people like Ernest
20 Stephens, who devote and dedicate their life and time to serving others and he will be long
21 remembered by all of those whose lives have been made better because of his care and
22 commitment.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
24 express sincere condolences upon the death of Ernest C. Stephens and extends enduring
25 appreciation for his outstanding service and many accomplishments for the good of the
26 people of the state of Louisiana.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his
28 widow, Irma Stephens.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

DIGEST		
SCR 82 Original	2021 Regular Session	Price
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