

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY SENATORS PEACOCK, ABRAHAM, ALLAIN, BARROW, BERNARD, BOUDREAUX, BOUIE, CARTER, CATHEY, CLOUD, CONNICK, CORTEZ, FESI, FIELDS, FOIL, HARRIS, HENRY, HENSGENS, HEWITT, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MCMATH, MILLIGAN, FRED MILLS, ROBERT MILLS, MIZELL, MORRIS, PETERSON, POPE, PRICE, REESE, SMITH, STINE, TALBOT, TARVER, WARD, WHITE AND WOMACK

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of attorney and former Louisiana State Senator, the Honorable Sydney Banks Nelson, and to celebrate the legacy of public service he leaves to his community and the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, it was with deep sorrow and regret that the citizens and the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana learned of the death of former State Senator Sydney Banks Nelson who passed peacefully from this life on January 10, 2022, at the age of eighty-six; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Nelson was born on March 12, 1935, to George Gus Nelson and Eunice Lilley Young Nelson, and grew up in Benton, Louisiana, immersed in his rural community, school, and church; and

WHEREAS, he attended the University of Oklahoma on a Naval ROTC scholarship, was active in numerous campus activities which honed his people skills and political interests, and earned a degree in accounting; and

WHEREAS, after serving his country through a variety of military postings while in the United States Navy, Sydney Nelson attended the Louisiana State University Law Center, where he excelled in his studies; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Nelson practiced law in the same manner he lived his life - doing all that he could do to serve and benefit others; and

WHEREAS, while Sydney Nelson served as a member of the State Senate from 1980 to 1992, Senator Nelson's positions and votes were based upon his convictions and beliefs, without regard to party affiliation, thus earning him the moniker, "the Conscience of the Senate"; and

WHEREAS, as a child of God, Sydney Nelson lived his faith and was active in his church and community, serving on numerous boards and participating in community and charity events; and

WHEREAS, Sydney Nelson is survived by Gail Anderson Nelson, his loving wife of sixty-three years, his daughter Denise Dawn Nelson Akers, his son Sydney Stephen Nelson, his four grandchildren, and his two great-grandchildren, and many extended family and friends; and

WHEREAS, it has been said that the measure of a man is based upon how he lived, his generosity of spirit, and his capacity to love; by these and any other measure, Sydney Banks Nelson stands tall indeed and will be long remembered.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere condolences to the family and friends of Sydney Banks Nelson, husband, father, attorney, legislator, community leader, volunteer, public servant, and Christian who set an extraordinary standard of graciousness and personal integrity for all to emulate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his wife, Gail Anderson Nelson and family.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE