SLS 24RS-1249

ORIGINAL

2024 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 29

BY SENATOR KLEINPETER

CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere condolences on the death of former Louisiana State Senator, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of former
3	Louisiana State Senator, the Honorable Thomas A. "Tom" Greene, to acknowledge
4	his commitment, to note his many contributions made on behalf of, and to commend
5	the legacy of public service he leaves to the people of his community, the state of
6	Louisiana, and the nation.
7	WHEREAS, it is with great sadness that the citizens of Louisiana have learned of the
8	passing from this life on March 22, 2024, of former Louisiana State Senator, Thomas A.
9	"Tom" Greene; and
10	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene was born on September 7, 1948, one of seven
11	children born to the union of George and Wylie Mae Greene; and
12	WHEREAS, he was a native of Fenton, a village in Jefferson Davis Parish,
13	Louisiana, where his father served as mayor and his mother ran the local post office; and
14	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene was a three-time graduate of LSU having
15	earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, a master's degree in nuclear engineering
16	and a doctorate degree in veterinary medicine and served as the LSU College of
17	Engineering's Student Body President in 1970; and
18	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene and his beloved wife of fifty-one years,

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1	Cathy Castleman Greene settled in Maringouin, Louisiana, between the bayous and raised
2	five children there: Holland, Craig, Jason, Ryan, and Boyd; and
3	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene's humble beginnings brought him from the
4	bayous to the highlands along the Mississippi River to represent the people of Louisiana
5	where he served as state senator representing Senate District 17; and
6	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene, a practicing veterinarian by trade, had never
7	sought an elected office before, but yet in 1992, he defeated a veteran lawmaker in a runoff
8	for the Louisiana Senate with fifty-one percent of the vote; and
9	WHEREAS, he subsequently won reelection four years later in 1995, capturing fifty-
10	eight percent of the vote; and
11	WHEREAS, he represented District 17 in the Louisiana Senate from 1992 to 2000
12	where he served as chairman of the Senate Committee on Education and was one of the first
13	lawmakers at the Louisiana State Capitol to champion the broad expansion of school choice;
14	and
15	WHEREAS, his efforts in the Louisiana Senate resulted in new standards of school
16	accountability for parents and more rigorous academic benchmarks for students; and
17	WHEREAS, he loved the people of Louisiana and fought tirelessly to make this state
18	a better place for future generations to come; and
19	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene was a true public servant and after his two
20	terms in the Louisiana Senate, he entered the race for governor in 1999, surprising political
21	observers by filing on the last day of qualifying; and
22	WHEREAS, running on a platform of improving education across Louisiana by
23	expanding school choice, pursuing robust economic development strategy, and instituting
24	a higher ethical standard for elected officials, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene's campaign
25	emphasized how an engaged executive with fresh ideas could usher in a new era of
26	prosperity for the state of Louisiana; and
27	WHEREAS, while thousands of Louisianians rallied behind him and supported him
28	as a candidate for governor at the ballot box, he ultimately finished third in the primary; and
29	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene returned to the community of Livonia which
30	welcomed him home where he continued his veterinary practice; and

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1	WHEREAS, rooted in a belief that "life's about relationships and none greater than
2	knowing our Lord", Thomas A. "Tom" Greene's legacy demonstrates that he truly dedicated
3	his life to helping and serving others; and
4	WHEREAS, while humbled by the accolades and recognition he received throughout
5	his lifetime, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene's most incredible and cherished reward was his role
6	as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend; and
7	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene, as patriarch and anchor, succeeded in
8	keeping his family grounded in their values and giving them an appreciation of what is truly
9	important in life; and
10	WHEREAS, knowing that Thomas A. "Tom" Greene was a man with an unshakable
11	Christian faith serves as a source of comfort to his family; and
12	WHEREAS, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene's legacy will continue to live on through his
13	family, his community, this state, and beyond; and
14	WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Meredith Claire, and
15	granddaughter, Jamie, and is survived by his wife, Cathy; children, Holland (Breaux), Craig
16	(Kristen), Jason (Leigh), Ryan (Bonnie), and Boyd (Meagan); twenty-one grandchildren; and
17	a host of extended family members and friends.
18	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
19	extend heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Thomas A. "Tom" Greene,
20	husband, father, grandfather, friend, legislator, and community leader who set an
21	extraordinary standard of graciousness and good citizenship for all to emulate.
22	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his
23	wife, Cathy Castleman Greene, and children, Holland, Craig, Jason, Ryan, and Boyd.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Angela Lockett De Jean.

SCR 29 Original	DIGEST 2024 Regular Session	Kleinpeter			
Expresses condolences upon the death of former state senator, Thomas A. "Tom" Greene.					