

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 82

BY REPRESENTATIVE WYBLE

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of James Mason Ballard, Sr.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound sorrow that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana and the citizens of Louisiana have learned of the death of James Mason Ballard, Sr., on March 4, 2025; and

WHEREAS, James Mason Ballard, Sr., was born in Monroe, Louisiana, on June 21, 1931, and was instilled with the values of hard work, integrity, and service to others, and these values shaped his lifelong dedication to both his country and his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ballard joined the United States Navy, where he was stationed aboard the USS Agerholm (DD-826) before being honorably discharged and pursuing a career that would impact generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Ballard earned a bachelor of science in education from Southern University and A&M College, and he went on to dedicate thirty-one years to shaping young minds, particularly at Pine High School, where his influence stretched far beyond the classroom as he guided students toward brighter futures with wisdom, patience, and a deep belief in their potential; and

WHEREAS, James was a man of unwavering faith; he was a dedicated member of Holy Family Catholic Church in Franklinton, Louisiana, where his service and commitment to his faith community earned him induction into the Order of St. Louis IX in 2003; and

WHEREAS, James was dedicated to public service and strengthening his community; he was a founding member of the Rural Franklinton Water Corporation Board, a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus, and a member of the American Legion, American Association of Retired Persons, the Louisiana Retired Teachers Association, and the National Association of Educators; and

WHEREAS, James Mason Ballard, Sr., leaves to cherish his beautiful memory his loving wife, Ruby Nelle Harrison Ballard; his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and his former students and colleagues; his unwavering dedication to his family, students, faith, and community represents the very best of Washington Parish and the state of Louisiana, and he leaves a legacy that will continue to inspire and shape the future of generations to come.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of James Mason Ballard, Sr., and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that his family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of his beautiful life.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES