

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 68

BY SENATOR JENKINS

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of Ayodele "Ayo" Edith Anderson and to commend and celebrate her life and legacy, and recognize her outstanding contributions to her community and unwavering faith and service.

WHEREAS, it is with deep respect and reverence that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana pays tribute to the life and accomplishments of Ayodele "Ayo" Edith Anderson, a radiant and beloved daughter of Louisiana, whose legacy of love, faith, service, and leadership profoundly impacted all who had the privilege of knowing her; and

WHEREAS, born on May 23, 1976, in Columbus, Ohio, to Arthur Lee and Burnadine Moss Anderson, Ayo's name, Ayodele, meaning "Joy Enters Our Home"; beautifully foretold her purpose-driven life, filled with boundless love and joy that she selflessly shared with all those around her; and

WHEREAS, raised in Shreveport, Louisiana, Ayo was baptized at Stoner Hill Baptist Church and matured in faith at Mount Canaan Baptist Church, growing into a leader and servant guided by spiritual conviction, compassion, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ayo's academic brilliance shone from an early age, attending South Highlands Elementary Magnet School, Caddo Middle Magnet, and C.E. Byrd High School, where she was a vocal advocate for equity and representation, inspiring others to rise into leadership and purpose; and

WHEREAS, Ayo pursued higher education at Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, graduating with honors from the Southern University Honors College in 1998 with a Bachelor of Arts in Mass Communications and Media Studies; she later earned a Master's Degree from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University; and

WHEREAS, as a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, initiated into the Beta Psi Chapter in Spring 1996, Ayo embodied the sorority's principles of sisterhood, scholarship, and service throughout her life; and

WHEREAS, Ayo's professional journey was marked by excellence and leadership, including her service at Southern University at Shreveport, corporate success at Verizon in New York City, where she received a National Award for Employee Innovation, and her mentorship of future healthcare professionals at LSU Health Shreveport's Area Health Education Center; and

WHEREAS, her return to Shreveport marked a homecoming filled with purpose, as she cared for her beloved family and continued her civic and spiritual commitments through Concord Baptist Church, Emmanuel Baptist Church, The Links, Inc., and Jack and Jill of America, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, Ayo's entrepreneurial spirit flourished through the founding of Ayo's Exquisite Excursions and Events, further demonstrating her vision, creativity, and love of sharing life's joys with others; and

WHEREAS, among all her many achievements, Ayo's most cherished role was that of mother to her beloved son, Ayden Akil Moss Anderson, with whom she shared a bond rooted in love, discovery, and unwavering devotion; and

WHEREAS, Ayo departed this life on April 25, 2025, after a sudden illness, leaving a legacy of compassion, leadership, and grace that will endure through the lives of those she touched and the countless seeds of hope and light she planted; and

WHEREAS, she is lovingly remembered and survived by her son, mother, brothers, extended family, godchild, sorority sisters, church, and civic communities, and a host of devoted friends and admirers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the extraordinary life of Ayodele "Ayo" Edith Anderson, does express profound sorrow upon her passing, and extends heartfelt condolences to her family and loved ones.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Ayodele "Ayo" Edith Anderson as a lasting expression of the Senate's gratitude and respect.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE