

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 381

BY REPRESENTATIVE JACKSON

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Julie Boston Lester and to recognize and honor her life, legacy, and extraordinary contributions to music education, arts, culture, and community service throughout the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing of Julie Boston Lester; and

WHEREAS, Julie W. Boston Lester was born on May 11, 1941, in Lillington, North Carolina, to Lawton and Nannie Boston and was raised in a family grounded in faith, education, and service; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lester attended Fisk University, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in music, became a proud member of the Fisk Jubilee Singers, and was initiated into the Alpha Beta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated; she later earned a master of music education degree from University of Louisiana at Monroe; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lester devoted nearly four decades of distinguished service to the students of the Caddo Parish Public Schools as a music educator, mentor, and advocate for the arts, and she inspired generations of young people through excellence in music education and cultural enrichment; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, Ms. Lester founded the New Dimensions Youth Chorale and dedicated herself to preserving and promoting the rich traditions of spirituals, jazz, and choral music throughout Northwest Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lester faithfully served her church, community, and numerous civic and cultural organizations with grace, humility, and unwavering dedication, including sixty-five years of uninterrupted service as a Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Lester departed this life on May 17, 2026, leaving behind a remarkable legacy of scholarship, artistry, mentorship, faith, and service that enriched the lives of countless students, families, educators, and citizens across Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Julie Boston Lester; does hereby recognize and honor her extraordinary life, enduring legacy, and immeasurable contributions to the people of Louisiana; and does hereby extend deepest sympathy to her family, friends, former students, and all who were blessed by her life and service.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES