

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 30

BY SENATOR ALARIO

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of former Louisiana State Senator J. Chris Ullo.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of a beloved statesman, the Honorable J. Chris Ullo, former member of both the Louisiana Senate and the Louisiana House of Representatives.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret that the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the death of Chris Ullo of Marrero, who passed away on Thursday, January 16, 2014, two months shy of his eighty-sixth birthday; and

WHEREAS, Chris Ullo had the rare privilege of public service in both houses of the Louisiana Legislature for a combined total of thirty-six years, elected to the House of Representatives District Eighty-four from 1972 until 1988 and elected to Senate District Eight from 1988 until 2007; and

WHEREAS, Senator Chris Ullo was blessed with a quick smile and a firm handshake; he was a gentleman brimming with self-confidence, charisma, a keen sense of humor, and with a profound understanding of the complexities of issues affecting the people of south Louisiana; and who, through diligence and tenacity, led a fascinating life experiencing success in nearly every endeavor; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Marrero, Senator Ullo represented the populace of Jefferson Parish in that area known as the "West Bank"; from Terrytown to Grand Isle and

1 in the rural communities of Crown Point, Barataria, and Lafitte in South Jefferson; and

2 WHEREAS, Chris Ullo embodied the best qualities of a public servant; he held a
3 genuine interest in the people he served and felt a personal responsibility to represent all of
4 his constituency with honesty and integrity; and

5 WHEREAS, he was born on March 16, 1928, to parents Mike and Carolina Drago
6 Ullo; and

7 WHEREAS, he attended parochial grammar school, graduated from Marrero High
8 School, and continued his studies at Tulane University in mechanical drawing; and

9 WHEREAS, Chris Ullo was married to the former Joyce Ann Daigle for sixty-three
10 years and together they reared a family of four children, son, Chris John Ullo, and daughters,
11 Cynthia Ullo Robbins, Frankie Ullo Boudreaux, and Bernie Ullo Blanchard, and were
12 blessed with ten grandchildren and six great-grandchildren; and

13 WHEREAS, Chris Ullo was a businessman who had owned a towboat service and
14 Ullo's Hardware, a prosperous hardware and department store in Marrero; and

15 WHEREAS, he was articulate and knowledgeable in those policies affecting the
16 infrastructure and economic growth of Jefferson Parish, whether it was the plight of
17 commercial fishermen or employees of the petro-chemical complex, Senator Ullo tried to
18 strike a balance between the needs of all the factions within his district; and

19 WHEREAS, while in the House of Representatives he served as vice chairman of the
20 House Committee on Natural Resources and took an active interest in oil and gas exploration
21 and also served as vice chairman of the Energy Committee of the National Conference of
22 State Legislatures and the chairman of the Southwest Regional Energy Council; and

23 WHEREAS, in the Senate, Chris Ullo was chairman of the Senate Education
24 Committee, with membership on Senate committees on Environmental Quality, Finance,
25 Senate & Governmental Affairs, Judiciary C, and Natural Resources, the Joint Committee
26 on the Budget, and the select committee on Coastal Restoration and Flood Control; and

27 WHEREAS, Chris Ullo took an avid interest in coastal reclamation, wetlands, and
28 wildlife conservation and was instrumental in the development of Jean Lafitte State Park;
29 and

30 WHEREAS, through his extraordinary talents of diplomacy and compromise, he

1 brought to fruition important legislation that included economic development, right-to-work,
2 energy production, highway and railroad infrastructure, teacher pay, educational
3 accountability, student truancy, law enforcement, criminal justice, and coastal restoration;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, Chris Ullo spoke out on the thorny issue of the return of public lands
6 in Barataria to its previous owners; and

7 WHEREAS, Chris Ullo had been the deserving recipient of numerous honors and
8 awards throughout the course of his exemplary career that included being named the 1978
9 Legislative Conservationist of the Year by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation; and

10 WHEREAS, his participation in community activities included that of past president
11 of the Marrero Lions Club, International, and membership in the Hope Haven-Madonna
12 Manor Boys' Home, the Italian-American Society, the Marrero-Harvey Volunteer Fire
13 Department, and the Louisiana State Firemen's Association; and

14 WHEREAS, throughout his time as a legislator, his political philosophy embraced
15 compromise, those give and take processes of representative democracy; Chris provided
16 invaluable leadership to the legislative process and it was made better by his active
17 participation; and

18 WHEREAS, Chris Ullo was a generous man blessed with an abundance of skills; he
19 performed his public service proudly and willingly; he extended courtesy to all; and he
20 leaves a rich and unique legacy of public service to his family, community, state, and nation.

21 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
22 extend its sincere condolences to the family and friends of that great statesman, Senator J.
23 Chris Ullo, a former member of both houses of the Legislature of Louisiana and a mainstay
24 in Jefferson Parish.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his
26 widow, Joyce D. Ullo.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Susan P. Montague.

DIGEST

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SCR No. 30

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