SLS 15RS-80 ORIGINAL

2015 Regular Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 8

BY SENATOR ALARIO

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CONDOLENCES. Expresses sincere condolences upon the passing of Charles Tubre, an advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities and the elderly.

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of Charles H. Tubre of New Orleans, a kind and caring individual who 3 4 worked tirelessly as a champion for the rights of the disabled and the elderly as a 5 consultant, public servant, educator, and administrator. WHEREAS, Charles Tubre passed peacefully from this life on December 18, 2014, 6 7 at the age of seventy-three; and 8 WHEREAS, he was a gentleman and lifelong crusader for the concerns of the 9 physically handicapped, mentally disabled, and the elderly; he improved the quality of life 10 for disabled individuals, in particular, through the improved availability and ready access 11 of public transportation, housing, education, and cultural venues; and 12 WHEREAS, during his lifetime, Charles Tubre had a far-reaching effect on the 13 removal of physical barriers in public places that inhibited the access of the handicapped to 14 all manner of public services in the city of New Orleans and throughout the state of Louisiana; and 15 16 WHEREAS, Charles Tubre experienced, firsthand, the obstacles and limitations placed upon the physically disabled by society; he had been wheelchair-bound since the age 17 18 of fourteen due to a spinal cord injury; and

1	WHEREAS, fearlessly, Charles did not let anyone or anything stand in his way; he
2	led the full life that his parents encouraged him to lead; they instilled in him the ambition
3	and fortitude to follow his dreams and become a contributing member of the community; and
4	WHEREAS, Charles did exactly that by becoming a frequent spokesman for the
5	rights of the disabled; he advocated the tenets of independent living; he lobbied local and
6	state lawmakers concerning the availability of handicapped services and the removal of
7	physical barriers to public transportation; and in 1979, he completed a Bachelor of Arts in
8	sociology from the University of New Orleans with special emphasis on the study of
9	handicapped individuals and community-based support services for the disabled; and
10	WHEREAS, his tenure in support services advocacy included positions as president
11	and executive director of the Independent Living Center, as services coordinator for
12	state-sponsored programs for handicapped children, as manager of the Disability Prevention
13	Program within the state office of pubic health, and as director of advocacy and community
14	relations for Resources for Independent Living, Inc.; and
15	WHEREAS, he was appointed to the Mayor's Advisory Council for Citizens with
16	Disabilities, the Regional Transit Authority's Special Transit Advisory Committee, and the
17	Governor's Advisory Council on Disabilities Affairs; and
18	WHEREAS, from 2001 until his death, Charles Tubre had a profound and
19	far-reaching effect on the delivery of essential services as a systems advocacy specialist and
20	program director for the Advocacy Center, a state program that functions as a clearinghouse
21	for public assistance programs made available to the elderly and individuals with disabilities;
22	and
23	WHEREAS, as a tireless proponent of access for all with a wealth of understanding
24	of the legislative process, Charles Tubre ably worked throughout government to best assist
25	disabled Louisianians while always conducting himself at the acme of his profession; and
26	WHEREAS, in 2012, the Advocacy Center dedicated its new administration office
27	at 8325 Oak Street in the Carrollton-Riverbend neighborhood in his honor; and
28	WHEREAS, the accomplishments of Charles Tubre, both great and small, may seem
29	incidental to the able-bodied; however, to the physically challenged, these improvements
30	were uplifting and life-changing, such as the purchase of specialized vehicles for disabled

1	college students, the guarantee of accessible housing through Section 8 federal grants, and
2	the funding for personal care attendants for adults with disabilities who sought to live
3	independently; and
4	WHEREAS, Charles Tubre's light shone brightest in the establishment of high
5	standards of handicapped access in public transportation in New Orleans; local
6	thoroughfares and cultural venues now provide readily accessible wheelchair ramps; and the
7	use of mobility devices on streetcars and taxis enhance the travel experience of disabled
8	tourists, as well as the local populous; and
9	WHEREAS, Charles Tubre had an admirable work ethic; he believed that if you
10	wished to feel positive about your work product, then working at the Advocacy Center
11	would offer that sweet sense of satisfaction; and
12	WHEREAS, in his leisure time, Charles delighted in the plethora of culture that
13	surrounded him and he found great satisfaction in artistic expression and painting; and
14	WHEREAS, Charles Tubre embraced a joie de vivre, the joy of life that was reflected
15	in his belief that his physical limitations were lessened by the capacity of his mind to dream
16	and his heart to love; and
17	WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his father, Richard D. Tubre Sr., mother,
18	Wilma Johnson Tubre, and sister, Ruth Ann Tanner; and
19	WHEREAS, Charles Tubre shall be remembered fondly for his unselfish acts of
20	kindness, his determination, his lifetime of significant contributions of improved
21	accessibility standards and support services afforded to the disabled citizens of this state, and
22	his distinguished service to the New Orleans community, both personally and professionally.
23	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
24	express sincere condolences on the passing of Charles H. Tubre, a person blessed with an
25	immeasurable capacity of empathy for his fellow man.
26	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his
27	family, Douglas Tubre, William Tubre, and Brenda Tubre, and to the Advocacy Center in

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New Orleans.

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

DIGEST 2015 Regular Session

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Expresses condolences upon the death of Charles H. Tubre of New Orleans.

SCR 8 Original