

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURRELL

1 honors in 1951; he matriculated to New York University, where he earned a master of arts  
2 degree in secondary education administration; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson began his professional career as a social studies and  
4 English teacher at his alma mater, Central High School; later he became chair of the school's  
5 social sciences department and eventually its principal; during his eighteen years as an  
6 administrator, he also served as principal of Judson Elementary School; he was among the  
7 first African American principals to be assigned to a predominantly white school during  
8 desegregation in Caddo Parish, and in recognition of his excellence as an educator, he was  
9 recognized as the Caddo Educator of the Year in 1960; and

10 WHEREAS, in 1962, Mr. Jackson received the Citizenship Education Award for  
11 Civil Rights Leadership from the Louisiana Education Association (LEA) for his efforts to  
12 promote equal educational opportunity and was later elected as the LEA president; in the  
13 early 1970s, he was appointed to the Biracial Committee and continued his work on  
14 desegregating Caddo schools and ending de jure segregation; President Richard Nixon and  
15 the National Education Association sought his guidance on desegregation interventions and  
16 successful educational strategies; and

17 WHEREAS, it was Mr. Jackson's passion for education that inspired his political  
18 advocacy, and in 1972, he began his long and distinguished term of service in the Louisiana  
19 House of Representatives as the first black legislator elected from Caddo Parish since  
20 Reconstruction; during his tenure in the House, which spanned from 1972 until 1992, he  
21 used every opportunity as an able and productive legislator to serve this state in an honorable  
22 and dedicated manner; he served diligently on several committees, including as the chairman  
23 of the House Committee on Health and Welfare and as a member of the House committees  
24 on Appropriations, Education, and Judiciary; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson was elected as a delegate to the Louisiana Constitutional  
26 Convention of 1973, and as chairman of the Committee on Bill of Rights and Elections, he  
27 worked with other delegates to craft the Louisiana Constitution of 1974; in 1977, he was one  
28 of ten founding members of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus and ultimately served  
29 with distinction as the dean of the caucus; and

1 WHEREAS, in the private sector, Mr. Jackson was president of Jackson, Nicholson  
2 and Associates, where he coordinated political campaigns and planned public relations and  
3 marketing programs, and after his departure from the legislature, he worked as a public  
4 affairs consultant for the Hurst Group, a public relations and government affairs firm; and

5 WHEREAS, throughout his life, Mr. Jackson was active in his Baptist faith; he was  
6 baptized at the Springfield Baptist Church and later united with the Avenue Baptist Church,  
7 where he taught Sunday school; in later years, he united with the Zion Baptist Church until  
8 he became a member of Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson lent his time and service to several organizations, including  
10 as a former member and past president of the Delta Upsilon Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi  
11 Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and as a Life Member of the National Association for the  
12 Advancement of Colored People and the LEA; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson was recognized on numerous occasions for his singular  
14 contributions and accomplishments, including having the Alphonse Jackson, Jr. Early  
15 Childhood Center in Shreveport named in his honor, receiving the Friend of Education  
16 Award from the Louisiana Association of Educators, and being designated by *The*  
17 *Shreveport Times* as one of most influential people of Northwest Louisiana in the twentieth  
18 century; and

19 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson was the kind of citizen who represents what is good about  
20 Louisiana, a man of wisdom who used his talents, integrity, and passion for his home state  
21 to change Louisiana for the better; he was a distinguished member, as Tom Brokaw wrote  
22 in his book, *The Greatest Generation*, of "a generation that, by and large, made no demands  
23 of homage from those who followed and prospered economically, politically, and culturally  
24 because of its sacrifices ... a generation of towering achievement and modest demeanor ...  
25 the greatest generation any society has ever produced"; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Jackson is survived by his wife of twenty-one years, Glenda Hurst  
27 Jackson; his daughters, former state legislator Lydia P. Jackson and Angela E. Jackson; his  
28 stepdaughter, Andrea M. Archie; his grandson, Jacobi D. Glenn; his sister, Olive "Ollie"  
29 Gibson; his father-in-law, Norbert Hurst; his former wife, Rubye H. Jackson, the mother of  
30 Lydia and Angela; two goddaughters, Kelesha T. Martin, and Sallie Singleton; and numerous

1   nieces and nephews who loved their "Uncle Jack"; he was preceded in death by his  
2   grandparents, Anola and Sam Beaner; his parents, Mattie and Alphonse Jackson, Sr.; his  
3   brother, Samuel L. Jackson; his sisters, Shirley Jackson Minor and Gloria G. Jackson; and  
4   his stepson, James R. Archie II; and

5           WHEREAS, with the death of Mr. Jackson, the state has lost one of her finest sons,  
6   a man who has left an indelible mark on the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved  
7   him, including the members of the House family, all of whom mourn the loss of this  
8   wonderful man who served this institution, this state, and his nation so well; he leaves a rich  
9   and unique legacy and is greatly missed by all whose lives he touched through his  
10   unwavering dedication to public service and to his fellow citizens.

11           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
12   express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Alphonse Jackson, Jr., former  
13   state representative and founding member of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus, does  
14   hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable accomplishments and singular  
15   contributions during his twenty-year tenure as a distinguished member of the Louisiana  
16   House of Representatives, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and  
17   honor that this wonderful man will forever bring to his family, his community, his state, and  
18   the United States of America.

19           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
20   to the family of Alphonse Jackson, Jr.

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#### DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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2015 Regular Session

Burrell

Expresses condolences upon the death of Alphonse Jackson, Jr., former state representative and founding member of the La. Legislative Black Caucus.