SLS 16RS-590

ORIGINAL

2016 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 21

BY SENATORS BOUDREAUX AND CORTEZ

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of William Ward "Bill" Rucks III.

1	A RESOLUTION
2	To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3	death of William Ward "Bill" Rucks III.
4	WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of Louisiana
5	learned of the death of William Ward "Bill" Rucks III on March 7, 2016, in Lafayette,
6	Louisiana, surrounded by his beloved family; and
7	WHEREAS, Mr. Rucks was born on January 9, 1931, to Dr. William Ward Rucks Jr.
8	and Louise Earthman Rucks; and
9	WHEREAS, a native of Nashville, Tennessee and former resident of Oklahoma City,
10	Oklahoma, Mr. Rucks was a resident of Lafayette for the majority of his life; and
11	WHEREAS, he attended The Webb School in Bell Buckle, Tennessee, was a
12	graduate of Pembroke Country Day Preparatory School in Kansas City, Missouri, and
13	attended the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma; and
14	WHEREAS, Mr. Rucks was an independent petroleum landman and the owner of
15	W.W. Rucks, III Oil Properties; and
16	WHEREAS, he was the president and a member of the board of directors of
17	Westlands Corporation of Lake Charles, and a past member of the Lafayette Association of
18	Petroleum Landmen as well as the American Association of Petroleum Landmen, and was

- a Certified Petroleum Landman; and 1 2 WHEREAS, Mr. Rucks served with distinction as a member and president of the 3 board of Lafayette Crime Stoppers and as a member of the Advisory Board of Directors of 4 Iberia Bank; and WHEREAS, he was a past member of several civic organizations, including the 5 6 Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, the Lafayette Economic Development 7 Expressway Commission, the University of Southwestern Louisiana Foundation, the 8 Louisiana State University Foundation, and the board of directors of Lafayette General 9 Medical Center and Lafayette General Surgical Hospital; and 10 WHEREAS, Mr. Rucks was a past chairman of the Cajundome Commission and the 11 Municipal Auditorium Management Board, as well as a past member and chairman of the 12 board of directors of First National Bank; and 13 WHEREAS, he served as past president of the Greater Southwest Louisiana Mardi 14 Gras Association and a past advisory board member and Commodore of the Krewe of 15 Gabriel: and 16 WHEREAS, he was also a past vice-president of the Lafayette Town House, past president of Oakbourne Country Club, and past charter member of the Petroleum Club of 17 18 Lafayette; and 19 WHEREAS, an avid outdoorsman, Mr. Rucks enjoyed hunting and fishing, 20 particularly at the Florence Club in Gueydan, which is owned by his son, and was a jogger, a golfer, and enjoyed playing tennis; and 21 WHEREAS, left to cherish his memory are his wife of sixty years, 22 23 Margaret Roy Rucks; two daughters, Margaret Gibson Rucks and Elizabeth Anne Scott; one son, William W."Billy" Rucks IV; ten grandchildren, Graham Cliffe Laborde, 24 25 Gibson Theodore Laborde, Garrison Rucks Laborde, William Ward Rucks V, Lane Alexandra R. McKnight, Shaylyn Elizabeth Scott, John Michael Scott, 26 James Anthony Scott, Therese Catherine Scott, and Abigail Grace Scott; three 27 great-grandchildren, Madison Margaret Laborde, Grayson Rucks Laborde, and 28 29 May Catherine McKnight; and one sister, Peggy Margaret R. McCune; and
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WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Dr. William Ward Rucks Jr.

and Louise Earthman Rucks; and one sister, Sarah McFarland Rucks; and
WHEREAS, with the death of William Ward "Bill" Rucks III, Louisiana has lost one
of its finest sons, a quintessential southern gentleman who loved his community and whose
accomplishments have left an indelible mark upon his community, state, and nation; and
WHEREAS, his death has left a substantial void in the Lafayette community and a
sense of loss in the citizens whose lives he touched, and his memory shall live forever in the
minds and hearts of all those who knew and loved this remarkable gentleman.
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of William Ward
"Bill" Rucks III, records for posterity his outstanding achievements, and extends enduring
appreciation for the tremendous pride and honor that he will forever bring to the Lafayette
community, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
family of William Ward "Bill" Rucks III.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Nancy Vicknair.

SR 21 Original

DIGEST 2016 Regular Session

Boudreaux

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