

2018 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 162

BY REPRESENTATIVES GLOVER, BAGLEY, CARMODY, JENKINS, NORTON, AND SEABAUGH

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of Richard G. Stewart, Sr.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Richard G.
3 Stewart, Sr.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the citizens of the state
5 of Louisiana learned of the recent death of Richard Stewart, Sr., on April 12, 2018, at the age
6 of ninety-two; and

7 WHEREAS, Richard Stewart, Sr., was born in 1926 to Wesley and Ollie Stewart; and

8 WHEREAS, he graduated from Central Colored High School in 1943 and attended
9 Spaulding Business College; and

10 WHEREAS, he proudly served his country and was a veteran of World War II; and

11 WHEREAS, on September 4, 1946, he married Corine Kinsey and three children
12 were born of their union: Richard Stewart, Jr., Carl Stewart, and James Stewart; and

13 WHEREAS, he worked as a letter carrier for the United States Postal Service from
14 1950 to 1981; he was one of the first black letter carriers in Shreveport and consistently
15 delivered smiles and encouraging words to generations of young and old residents on his
16 route; and

17 WHEREAS, prior to retiring from the post office he became the owner and operator
18 of Modern Cleaners where he worked evenings and continued to serve the residents of
19 Lakeside and Allendale; and

20 WHEREAS, he was a man of courage and was the lead plaintiff in a federal housing
21 discrimination class action lawsuit in 1954: *Richard G. Stewart, et al v Clarke Terrace Unit*

1 *No. 1*; he also served on the Caddo Parish Citizens Jail Advisory Committee in the 1970s;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, always an avid supporter of education, he served several terms as
4 president of the Parent Teacher Association in his children's schools, and he also served as
5 president of the district PTA; he was a founding member of the Centralites of 1943 Class
6 Reunion Organization and served as the first president of the National Centralites Reunion
7 Organization, an alumni association of Central Colored High School, and under his
8 leadership, the National Centralites provided scholarships and other educational assistance
9 to deserving students; he led efforts to have Central Colored High School included on the
10 National Register of Historic Places; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Stewart was a faithful member of St. James United Methodist
12 Church, where he was a member of the choir, finance committee, trustees, and several
13 mission and ministry outreach projects; he was also a longtime supporter of the Norwela
14 Council Boy Scouts of America; and

15 WHEREAS, his lifelong commitment to humanity was highlighted by his receipt of
16 an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from Centenary College of Louisiana in
17 2013; and

18 WHEREAS, he is survived by three sons: Captain United States Navy (Retired)
19 Richard G. Stewart, Jr., and his wife Sandra, Chief Judge Carl E. Stewart, and his wife
20 Jo Ann, Caddo Parish District Attorney James E. Stewart, Sr., and his wife Helen;
21 grandchildren, Tanesha Stewart, James White, and his wife Destiny, Carl E. Stewart, Jr., and
22 his wife Belinda, Judge Karelia Stewart, and her husband Frederick, Kyle Stewart, and his
23 wife, Lauren, James E. Stewart, Jr., Adrienne Stewart, David Stewart, Andrea Stewart,
24 Jonathan Stewart, Jared Gafford, and his wife Vashonda, and Trae Gafford; great-
25 grandchildren James White, Kristen White, Karlie Jackson, Carson Stewart, Chloe Stewart,
26 Jackson Gafford, Ayelet Gafford, Jordan Stewart, and Jayden Stewart; and other relatives
27 and friends.

28 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
29 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the
30 death of Richard G. Stewart, Sr.; does hereby recognize and record for posterity his

1 accomplishments and contributions; and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the
2 pride and honor that he will forever bring to his family, friends, community, and the state
3 of Louisiana.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
5 family of Richard G. Stewart, Sr.

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)]

HR 162 Original

2018 Regular Session

Glover

Expresses condolences on the death of Richard G. Stewart, Sr.