

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 95

BY REPRESENTATIVES EDWARDS AND SCHRODER

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Mearn "Sweet Boy" Tanner and to express full measures of sympathy to his bereaved family.

WHEREAS, it is with much regret and deep sadness that the Louisiana House of Representatives has learned of the death of Mearn "Sweet Boy" Tanner on April 30, 2013, in Greensburg, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, born on November 8, 1924, Sweet Boy was the first of two children of the late Silas Tanner and Emma Chaney of Greensburg; and

WHEREAS, at an early age and under the pastorship of the late Robert Williams, Sweet Boy accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior and lived by His Holy Word throughout his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Sweet Boy was educated in the St. Helena Parish School System and was a lifelong member of Jackson Chapel Independent Methodist Episcopal Church, presently under the leadership of Rev. Elijah Harvey, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, on December 25, 1943, Mearn married the love of his life, Mayola Jackson, whom he met when he was seven, and their union was blessed with ten loving children; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tanner began his career as a welder at a shipyard in New Orleans, Louisiana, and he held many other jobs throughout his career including bus driver, mechanic, farmer, convenience store owner, and logging contractor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tanner was preceded in death by his parents, Emma Chaney and Silas Tanner; his grandparents, Balus Tanner and Francis Ard Tanner; one sister and brother-in-law, Iona T. and Mack Pitts; mother- and father-in-law, Myrtle and Alton Jackson; one sister-in-law, Olevia Jackson; five brothers-in-law, Rev. B.W. West, Alfred Jackson, Charlie Matthews, Jerome Doughty, Sr., and Lemard Jackson; one son-in-law, Melvin Lee; and three great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tanner leaves to cherish his memory his loving and devoted wife of sixty-nine years, Mayola Tanner; ten children, Enola Harvey and husband Elijah, Marvin Tanner and wife Ora Lee, Lathin Tanner and wife Lillian, Evelyn Morgan and husband Willie, Othel Tanner, Mearn Ray Tanner, Myrtle Hurst and husband Fritz, Vereta T. Lee, Emma Tanner, and Edward Tanner; five sisters-in-law, Iola Matthews, Inez Jackson, Thelma Jackson, Mae Ella West, and Gladys Doughty; thirty-eight grandchildren, fifty-one great-grandchildren, three great-great grandchildren; one niece, Hazel T. Gotch; one nephew, James R. Tanner, several devoted cousins, other relatives and friends, and a special and caring granddaughter, Wilishia J. Morgan; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tanner was the kind of citizen who represents all that is good about Louisiana, a man of true wisdom, generosity, and kindness who loved his family above all; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tanner's death brings the loss of one of Louisiana's finest sons, a man who deserves recognition and a sincere measure of posthumous gratitude for the joy that he brought to his family, friends, and community; and

WHEREAS, the death of Mearn "Sweet Boy" Tanner has left a great void and created a genuine sense of sorrow in all who knew him, and he leaves behind a rich and unique legacy of hard work and dedication and will be greatly missed by all whose lives he touched.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Mearn "Sweet Boy" Tanner, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable accomplishments and singular contributions, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride and honor that this extraordinary man will forever bring to his family and friends, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Mearn "Sweet Boy" Tanner.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES