

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY SENATOR LONG

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Reverend Perry Sanders.

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana learned of the death of the Reverend Perry Sanders, on Monday, March 26, 2012, at the age of eighty-four, in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and

WHEREAS, he was surrounded by his only child, Perry Ray Sanders Jr., his daughter-in-law, Lorn Lee Sanders, and his grandchildren, Perry Ray Sanders III, John Michael Sanders, Noah Paul Sanders, and Sunny Lee Sanders; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Sanders was a native of South Carolina who came to Louisiana to attend the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary; and

WHEREAS, he served tenures at the pulpits of Baptist churches in Baton Rouge and Jennings before settling in Lafayette; and

WHEREAS, he served First Baptist Church in Lafayette for forty-seven years, and under his pastorate, he shepherded a congregation that grew from one thousand two hundred nine members to nearly five thousand members at the time of his retirement in 2006; and

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Reverend Sanders, First Baptist Church in Lafayette began televising its broadcasts and implementing innovative music programs; and

WHEREAS, he was a frequent speaker at Baptist conventions and Evangelistic conferences nationwide; and

WHEREAS, he brought the closing message to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1981; and

WHEREAS, a fan of University of Louisiana at Lafayette sports, Reverend Sanders often brought the invocation at Ragin Cajun basketball games; and

WHEREAS, he was an avid outdoor sportsman who enjoyed such hobbies as golf, hunting and fishing; and

WHEREAS, he was an active member of the Lafayette civic community, serving as a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, the Kiwanis Club, the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, and the United Givers Fund and was a founding member of the Acadiana Arts Council, now known as the Acadiana Center for the Arts; and

WHEREAS, the death of Reverend Sanders has left a tremendous void in the Lafayette community and has created a genuine sense of sorrow in many individuals who mourn the loss of this wonderful man whose memory shall forever remain alive in their minds and hearts.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of the Reverend Perry Sanders, and does hereby extend posthumous honor and recognition to Reverend Sanders for his incomparable legacy which is marked by the deep pride and honor that he will forever bring to his family, friends, community, churches, state, and nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Reverend Perry Sanders.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES