

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 90

BY SENATORS GARY SMITH AND PRICE AND REPRESENTATIVES GAINES,  
GREGORY MILLER AND STAGNI

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of an exceptional public servant and friend, Clyde "Rock" Gisclair, former assessor for the parish of St. Charles.

WHEREAS, Rock Gisclair led an extraordinary and blessed life as a Christian, educator, public servant, businessman, husband, and father; and

WHEREAS, always sporting his signature cowboy hat, Rock was amicable and well-liked by all who knew him; he was a pillar of the community and a knowledgeable scholar of the history of St. Charles Parish; and

WHEREAS, as assessor, he was impartial in the determination of the fair market value of fifty thousand parcels of commercial and residential property in his jurisdiction; the ad valorem taxation revenue collected was essential to funding local school and library systems, law enforcement, parish government, fire protection, and other vital services; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Rock Gisclair was an outspoken advocate of fairness for all, especially homeowners and small businesses; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of south Louisiana, he graduated from Hahnville High School in 1953, and as a superior athlete, he signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers and played professional baseball for four years; and

WHEREAS, proud of his military service, Rock served with distinction during the Korean Conflict as a member of the United States Army Military Police Force stationed in the Demilitarized Zone between North and South Korea; and

WHEREAS, after an honorable discharge Rock returned home to work with his

father, Claudet Gisclair, in his father's barbershop; and

WHEREAS, using the opportunities afforded him by the GI Bill, Rock continued his education by matriculating to Nicholls State University to earn both a bachelor of art's degree and a master's degree in education; he served as principal at Riverside Academy in Reserve and as an English and history teacher at his alma mater, Hahnville High School; and

WHEREAS, in the 1970s Rock Gisclair launched a grassroots campaign to run for the elected office of assessor; he canvassed neighborhoods, walked door-to-door, shook hands, spoke to constituents, and gained their trust; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Anthony "Rock" Gisclair took the oath of office on July 2, 1972, and served as a highly effective public official for four decades; and with a heartfelt decision not to seek re-election, he relinquished the office to the next assessor, Tab Troxler, in December 2012; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, the parish assessor's office evolved from "pencil and paper" recordkeeping to fully automated digital information technology; and

WHEREAS, Rock Gisclair held membership in many prestigious professional organizations that included the Louisiana Assessors Association, the National Association of Master Appraisers, the International Association of Assessing Officers, the Association of Governmental Accountants, the College of Real Estate Appraisers, the International Real Estate Institute, and the Environmental Assessment Association; and

WHEREAS, after he stepped down as assessor, Rock established a successful real estate business, Gisclair Properties; and

WHEREAS, Rock had several leisure pastimes that included hunting and fishing; he was an avid collector of wooden duck decoys, many carved by local craftsmen; and

WHEREAS, Rock was a longtime resident of Luling, Louisiana; he was married to Sylvia Keller Gisclair for sixty-one years until his passing on April 14, 2018; they were blessed with a daughter, Tara G. Dufrene, and two sons, John Joseph Gisclair and Daniel David Gisclair, six grandchildren, extended family, and many dear friends; and

WHEREAS, his commitment of forty years of public service exemplified all the fine qualities of this proficient parochial administrator; Rock Gisclair gave his all to the public he served with a lifetime of good works and unselfish acts to his credit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences upon the death of Clyde "Rock" Gisclair, former assessor for St. Charles Parish.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby acknowledge an extraordinary life well spent in the service of his country, his community, and his God.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Clyde "Rock" Gisclair.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES