

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 19

BY SENATOR MURRAY

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Dr. Horace Bynum, Sr., pharmacist and civil rights leader.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness to learn of the death of Dr. Horace Bynum Sr., a pharmacist who became an entrepreneur and a civil rights leader who died at the age of 94, on Thursday, April 7, 2011; and

WHEREAS, he was born on November 2, 1916 in New Orleans, Louisiana, and educated in public schools attending Thomy Lafon and graduating from Mc Donough 35 High School in 1932; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Xavier University in 1936 with a B.S. degree in Pharmacy, Horace Bynum, Sr., worked in the United States Post Office; and

WHEREAS, in 1947, he opened a pharmacy business later to become Bynum & Sons as part of New Orleans' first black-owned strip shopping center, which also included a barber shop, a shoe store, a grocery store and a health clinic; and

WHEREAS, Bynum & Sons operated for over sixty years in the communities of the St. Bernard and Desire housing projects; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1950s, Horace Bynum, Sr., joined partnerships that built more than 200 homes throughout New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, he was active in the civil-rights movement, working with people such as Dutch Morial, A.P. Tureaud and the Rev. Avery Alexander to get jobs for African Americans and to desegregate the city's public schools; and

WHEREAS, when he succeeded Morial as president of the local NAACP chapter in 1965, Horace Bynum, Sr., succeeded at helping African Americans get work at the Coca-Cola bottling plant, Holsum Bakeries and NASA's Michoud facility, and he also worked to boost voter registration and desegregate the Sugar Bowl, Municipal Auditorium and the New Orleans Recreation Department; and

WHEREAS, Horace Bynum, Sr., was an officer of the New Orleans and State NAACP, member of the National Pharmaceutical Association, Phi Delta Mu Fraternity and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, in 2005, he received an honorary doctorate degree from Xavier University; and

WHEREAS, Horace Bynum Sr., worked full-time until Hurricane Katrina destroyed his pharmacies in August 2005, and as his home also sustained serious damage, he tore it down and rebuilt it within six months, even though he was 89 years old; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife, Ethel Frinkle Bynum; two sons, Adolph Bynum Sr., and Horace Bynum Jr.; a daughter, Lauren Rodarte; a brother, Alvin Bynum; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, because of his numerous accomplishments, Horace Bynum, Sr., will forever be remembered by the people of Louisiana for his integrity, dignity, and the inspiration he left in the hearts of all who support civil rights.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby acknowledge with gratitude the bravery, courage, and outstanding service of Horace Bynum, Sr., and extends sincere regrets and condolences to his family on the occasion of his death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Ethel Frinkle Bynum.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE