

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

BY SENATORS BOUDREAUX, PEACOCK AND PETERSON

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Melinda Waller Mangham, educator.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the passing of Melinda Waller Mangham on April 30, 2020, at age seventy-nine; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Mangham was an impactful educator extraordinaire, a staunch community activist, and a woman on a mission who dedicated every day to impassioned advocacy for education, teachers, and her beloved students; and

WHEREAS, she taught in public and private schools across Louisiana including Lee High School, Episcopal High School, Airline High School, Glen Oaks High School, Valley Park Middle School, St. James Episcopal, St. Mark's Episcopal, Lafayette High School, and Ascension Episcopal; and

WHEREAS, whether you knew her as Melinda, "Mrs. M", Mrs. Mangham, Mangham, or Millie, she considered so many close friends as family; and

WHEREAS, her degrees, professional awards, and affiliations are numerous and impressive; Mrs. Mangham was named a White House Distinguished Teacher by two presidents, George H. Bush and, her favorite, William Jefferson Clinton; she was also named an Outstanding Educator by the University of Miami, Texas A&M, MIT, and the Illinois Institute of Technology; and she was recognized as a Coca-Cola Educator of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, Governor John Bel Edwards appointed her to the Louisiana Commission on College and Career Readiness; and

WHEREAS, a proud alumnus of LSU, she served on the Advisory Counsel of LSU's Ogden Honors College and on the Executive Board of the Tiger Athletic Foundation; she also served on the University of Louisiana - Lafayette Center for Gifted Education Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Melinda was preceded in death by her husband, Michael Ray "Mickey" Mangham; her sister-in-law, Molly Mangham Douglass; her parents, Morgan Howard Waller and Elizabeth Bowen Waller; and her in-laws, Francis Ray Mangham and Louise Ratliff Mangham; and

WHEREAS, she is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Morgan "Liz" Mangham; her brother, The Reverend Stephen Jay Waller; her brother-in-law, George Douglass; her nieces, Molly Hadden and husband, Corky; Melissa Steiner and husband, Jerry; Michelle Tyler and husband, Doug; several great-nieces and nephews; and her dear friend and caregiver, Annie Belle Shelvin; and

WHEREAS, Melinda Mangham was a larger than life educator who championed students and teachers with undeniable passion for decades; she brought passion to everything she did and approached every task with devotion, fierce leadership, and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Mangham exemplified all that is good about Louisiana through her devotion to family and friends and her excellence in the vital field of education; and

WHEREAS, with her death, Louisiana has lost one of her finest citizens, a woman who was loved by all whose lives she touched, who leaves behind a rich and unique legacy, and who is profoundly missed; and

WHEREAS, although the death of Melinda Waller Mangham has left a tremendous void in her community, her memory shall live on forever in the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved her.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Melinda Waller Mangham; does hereby recognize and record for posterity her singular accomplishments and contributions; and does hereby extend enduring appreciation for the pride, honor, and joy that this extraordinary woman and educator will forever bring to her family and friends, her students and colleagues, and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Melinda Waller Mangham.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE