

2020 First Extraordinary Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 54

BY SENATOR BARROW

CONDOLENCES. Recognizes and expresses condolences upon the deaths of Feaster Dorsey and Lawrence "Pookie" Jones.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize and express condolences upon the deaths of Feaster Dorsey and Lawrence  
3 "Pookie" Jones, Jr.

4 WHEREAS, Feaster Dorsey grew up in White Castle, Louisiana, and came of age  
5 in the 1950s, when opportunities for African Americans were scarce, but was determined to  
6 make something of himself; and

7 WHEREAS, he joined the United States Air Force, served his country overseas and  
8 later moved to Baton Rouge, where he earned two degrees from Southern University, and  
9 soon became a father; and

10 WHEREAS, Feaster Dorsey started his teaching career, left the field to become an  
11 insurance salesman, then returned decades later as a middle school teacher and coach; and

12 WHEREAS, he died from coronavirus at age eighty-three, less than twenty-four  
13 hours after his stepson, Lawrence "Pookie" Jones, Jr. died from the same disease at the same  
14 hospital, receiving care from the same doctors and nurses; and

15 WHEREAS, when Feaster Dorsey started feeling sick at the beginning of March,  
16 relatives attributed his symptoms to existing medical conditions, including high blood  
17 pressure and Parkinson's disease; however after testing positive for coronavirus, he was  
18 ultimately hospitalized about two weeks before his death and spent his birthday in a hospital

1 bed, fighting for his life, before passing on April 9, 2020; and

2 WHEREAS, Lawrence "Pookie" Jones, Jr., was age thirty-nine at the time of his  
3 passing, making him one of the youngest people to die from coronavirus in the Baton Rouge  
4 area at the time; and

5 WHEREAS, Feaster and Pookie belonged to a large extended family rooted in and  
6 around Gonzales, Louisiana, who were devastated by the events, but surviving loved ones  
7 were unable to perform the usual mourning rituals; and

8 WHEREAS, Pookie Jones, who had been living with his mom and stepdad in recent  
9 months, started experiencing symptoms, too, though he did have underlying health  
10 conditions but none serious enough to prevent him from working fulltime and living a  
11 normal productive life, and his condition declined rapidly and he died on April 8, 2020.

12 THEREFOR, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
13 does hereby recognize and express condolences upon the death of Feaster Dorsey and  
14 Lawrence "Pookie" Jones, Jr.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Jerry J. Guillot.

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DIGEST

SR 54 Original

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Barrow

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"Pookie" Jones, Jr.