

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 316

BY REPRESENTATIVES JAMES, BAGNERIS, BOUIE, BRASS, CARPENTER, GARY CARTER, COX, DUPLESSIS, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GLOVER, JIMMY HARRIS, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, JORDAN, TERRY LANDRY, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, DUSTIN MILLER, MOORE, NORTON, PIERRE, AND SMITH

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of J. Ashley Mitchell Carter, former attorney for the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee of the Louisiana Legislature.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death at age thirty-four of J. Ashley Mitchell Carter, a dedicated public servant and brilliant attorney who left this world on May 27, 2019; and

WHEREAS, Ashley was born on April 16, 1985, to James "J. B." and Jennifer Gail Walker Mitchell in Shreveport, Louisiana; she graduated with honors from Louisiana State University with a bachelor of arts in political science and a minor in psychology; she also graduated with honors from Southern University with a master of social sciences in political science and earned her juris doctor degree from Southern University; and

WHEREAS, as a law student, Ashley was elected as vice president, president, and sub-regional director of the National Black Law Students Association; she served as vice president of entertainment of the Sports and Entertainment Legal Association, and she held positions as graduate advisor and teaching assistant; her public service career began as a law clerk with the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, chaired by former U.S. Senator Mary Landrieu; and

WHEREAS, Ashley married the love of her life, Charles Carter, Jr., on June 28, 2014; and

WHEREAS, a member of New Gideon Baptist Church, she was a strong Christian, a devoted child of God, and a loyal family member and friend; she was the director of the liturgical dance ministry; and

WHEREAS, Ashley was a staff attorney for the Senate and Governmental Affairs Committee and the Senate Select Committee on Women and Children of the Legislature of Louisiana; she served as interim executive director of the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus and the Louisiana Legislative Black Caucus Foundation and as support staff for the Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus; and

WHEREAS, she worked in the Louisiana Senate chief of staff's office and the office of the governor during Governor Kathleen Blanco's term; and

WHEREAS, as a founding partner of the Pearson and Mitchell law firm, Ashley focused on intellectual property, contract negotiations, family law, wills, successions, business, and foundation formation; she was in the 2017 graduating class of the Baton Rouge Area Chamber leadership program; and

WHEREAS, she was a certified mediator and a member of the Baton Rouge Bar Association, Louisiana State Bar Association, National Bar Association, and Louis A. Martinet Legal Society; and

WHEREAS, she maintained involvement in a number of community endeavors, including being a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, and with her husband and his childhood friends, she assisted Reaching Our Dreams Foundation, a nonprofit organization with initiatives like annual Thanksgiving turkey giveaways in Baton Rouge and Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, Ashley was a friend to many people who embraced and accepted her as family; her positive nature and kind soul radiated through her work and charitable efforts; and

WHEREAS, those who mourn her loss may find solace in the fact that she was a believer in Christ who accepted the Lord into her life at an early age and Ashley's spirit will live on.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express condolences upon the death of J. Ashley Mitchell Carter; does hereby recognize and record for posterity her significant contributions, her outstanding abilities, and her generosity and kindness; and does hereby express the deep regret of the entire House of Representatives family upon the loss of this extraordinary woman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of J. Ashley Mitchell Carter.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES