

2016 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY REPRESENTATIVE LANCE HARRIS

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Frances Bolton Davis.

WHEREAS, it was with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Louisiana House of Representatives learned of the death of Frances Bolton Davis on Tuesday, January 5, 2016, at the age of eighty-seven; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis attended Bolton High School and Randolph-Macon Women's College, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in history; she was later awarded a doctorate of humane letters by Centenary College; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from college, Mrs. Davis worked for Rapides Bank and Trust Company, the bank her grandfather founded; she later served as director of the bank; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis married Dr. Paul "Mac" Davis, Jr., and after a stint of living overseas while Dr. Davis honorably served his country in the military, the loving couple moved back to Alexandria; and

WHEREAS, as a resident of Alexandria, Mrs. Davis was an instrumental figure in numerous nonprofit, civic organizations; she was a patron of the arts and a strong advocate for improving the quality of life in central Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis served on numerous boards, including those for Rapides Bank and Trust Company, First United Methodist Church, the Alexandria Museum of Art, the Rapides Symphony Orchestra, and she was a founding member of the River Oaks Square Arts Center; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis and her family gave generously of their time, energy, and resources to Louisiana State University of Alexandria (LSUA); Mrs. Davis established the first endowed professorship in the department of business and the Bolton Excellence in Teaching award; she also supported the expansion of the library and the creation of the LSUA Child Care Center; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, Mrs. Davis received the Alexandria Rotary Club's Service Above Self award in recognition of her generosity and work to make Alexandria a better place; and

WHEREAS, she also received the Lifetime Achievement in the Arts award from the Louisiana office of cultural development; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis was an emeritus and charter member of River Oaks Square Arts Center board of directors; the Bolton family donated their home to the city of Alexandria in an agreement that it would be used solely for the arts, and it became a catalyst for the center; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis, along with her husband, developed the Lake District to raise development standards in central Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, on December 18, 2015, the Rapides Area Planning Commission presented Mrs. Davis with a Commendation of Excellence in recognition of her and her husband's significant role in the development of the Lake District; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis was preceded in death by her husband of fifty-five years, Dr. Paul "Mac" Davis, Jr.; her parents, James and Frances Sample Bolton; and her sister, Mary Eleanor Bolton; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis is survived by her sons, Paul M. Davis, III, and his wife, Beth, and James Bolton Davis and his wife, Linda; her daughter, Frances Sentell Davis; her grandchildren, Paul McMillian Davis, IV, Stephen Bolton Davis, James Stafford Davis, Catherine Calderwood Davis, and William Parker Davis; her great-grandchild, Carter Holman Davis; and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis will be remembered for her remarkable leadership, her brilliant intellect, and all of the incomparable talents that she lent to her fellow citizens and as a community leader whose loyalty and dedication to the city of Alexandria were inspiring and unwavering; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Davis represented all that is good about Louisiana as a woman with unique gifts and a charitable spirit who shared her abilities with her community and state, and she is terribly missed but will never be forgotten.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Frances Bolton Davis and does hereby recognize that the life and work of this extraordinary woman will forever be a source of deep pride and honor for the city of Alexandria and the state of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Frances Bolton Davis.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES