

2019 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 146

BY SENATORS MILKOVICH, ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, FANNIN, GATTI, HENSGENS, HEWITT, JOHNS, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, RISER, GARY SMITH, TARVER AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To express sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Dana Carpenter, PhD, a Southern University administrator and husband of Louisiana House of Representatives member, Barbara West Carpenter, PhD.

WHEREAS, Dana Carpenter was born to O.C. and Mary Payton Carpenter, their sixth child, on January 8, 1945, in Natchitoches, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Dana Carpenter attended public schools in Natchitoches Parish where he was a scholarly leader; being diligent about his studies, he graduated from Central High School with highest honors and moved to further his studies at Grambling State University; and

WHEREAS, at Grambling, Dana Carpenter excelled academically and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in speech, drama, and English education; and

WHEREAS, Dana Carpenter went on to study at Northwestern State University in his home town of Natchitoches, Louisiana, where he earned a master of arts degree in speech education with an emphasis on teaching, administration, and supervision; and

WHEREAS, Dana Carpenter's terminal degree came from Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, where he earned a PhD in curriculum, instruction, and higher education; and

WHEREAS, Dana Carpenter came from a religious Christian family and he took his love of his wife and family to be a reflection of that faith and he was devoted to them, especially his wife, state representative Barbara West Carpenter, PhD and to their children, Erin and Patrick; and

WHEREAS, one of Dr. Carpenter's greatest strengths was in modeling a love for

learning, and all who were fortunate enough to cross his path, particularly as his student, were much the better for knowing or being taught by him; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carpenter's teaching career took him to the Calcasieu Parish School System where, in Lake Charles, Louisiana, he taught speech and drama to high school students whose lives were greatly influenced by his deep love for learning and his guiding and encouragement of their own educational experiences; and

WHEREAS, even beyond his classrooms, Dr. Carpenter garnered a reputation as a gifted and talented teacher, and Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, recruited him to join the university; and

WHEREAS, upon arriving at the campus in Baton Rouge, Dr. Carpenter immediately affiliated with the Richardson Chapel Church of God in Christ, seeking a home church to nurture his soul in his new surroundings; and

WHEREAS, at Southern University, Dr. Carpenter became a tenured full professor, no small achievement in the competitive world of academia; and

WHEREAS, in his career at Southern University, Dr. Carpenter held a variety of positions, including associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, associate vice chancellor for enrollment management, director of academic outreach programs, and Dean of University College, all essential positions for the academic reputation of the university; and

WHEREAS, Dana Carpenter, PhD, also served the profession of education in a variety of roles, including as an inaugural member of the City of Baker school board, to which he was elected in 1999, and this initial board oversaw the establishment of the system, separating from the East Baton Rouge Parish schools in 2003, and he went on to serve three terms as board president; and

WHEREAS, Dana Carpenter, PhD, was an immensely talented scholar, educator, and administrator who influenced the lives of hundreds of students in the Lake Charles schools, at Southern University, and the City of Baker schools, leaving a legacy of people who see themselves with a broader horizon to which to aspire because Dr. Carpenter ensured that his students knew that their intellectual grasp could reach beyond the immediate and that they could live to serve and to inspire others to reach their full potential, academically and as adults in any role they chose for themselves.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences upon the death of Dana Carpenter, PhD, a Southern University administrator and husband of Louisiana House of Representatives member, Barbara West Carpenter, PhD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Representative Barbara West Carpenter and her family.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE