

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 3

BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Neel Emerson Garland.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing of a great gentleman and family patriarch, Neel Emerson Garland, on January 18, 2021, at the age of ninety-one years; and

WHEREAS, Neel was born in Houston, Texas, on October 27, 1929, to Christine Koppel Garland and David Harper Garland; and

WHEREAS, in his early years, Neel was an active Boy Scout, who attained the distinguished rank of Eagle Scout while attending Lamar High School in Houston, and spent summers at the Colorado Chautauqua with his family and mountain climbing with friends, including two memorable climbs to the top of Longs Peak, the tallest mountain in Rocky Mountain National Park; and

WHEREAS, following his graduation from Lamar High School, Neel entered Rice Institute, now Rice University, in 1947, where he earned two chemical engineering degrees, and was a member of Tau Beta Pi, the honorary engineering society, Phi Lambda Upsilon Honorary Chemistry Society, Alpha Phi Omega for former Boy Scouts, and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers; and

WHEREAS, upon his graduation from Rice, Neel was employed by Ethyl Corporation, working four years in Houston before transferring to Baton Rouge, where he met his future wife and the love of his life, Frances Lees Barth, whom he married in 1959; and

WHEREAS, Neel retired from Ethyl in 1986 after thirty-four years of supervisory positions in process engineering and environmental engineering; and

WHEREAS, after retirement, Neel and Frances spent thirty-two summers at Chautauqua, during which they became close friends with the many cottagers who returned each year for mountain climbing and hiking, with whom Neel frequently enjoyed hiking through the area's scenic beauty, and who dubbed Neel "Mountain Man"; and

WHEREAS, he was a member of the Rocky Mountain Climbers Club, climbing several "fourteeners" with his son Doug, as well as a third climb up Longs Peak and hiking most of the trails in Rocky Mountain National Park, Boulder Mountain Parks, and the Indian Peaks Wilderness; and

WHEREAS, he served several terms as president of The Cottagers of Chautauqua and wrote a history of family owned cottages and their residents, which research was later utilized in the successful application to make the Colorado Chautauqua a National Historic Landmark in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Neel was an avid bridge player, and a longtime member of the Baton Rouge Bridge Club, earning three hundred masterpoints; and

WHEREAS, he was an active member of St. James Episcopal Church, an associate vestry member in the early 1960s, and worked the Gumbo Lunch for many years; and

WHEREAS, Neel and Frances traveled extensively and visited all fifty states and many countries during their life together, his favorite vacation spots being Yellowstone National Park, Santorini, Machu Picchu, and the Australian outback; and

WHEREAS, he was a huge sports fan, especially of LSU, Rice, and the New Orleans Saints; and

WHEREAS, he was an extraordinary husband, father, grandfather, and friend, who is survived by his loving wife of sixty-two years, Frances Barth Garland; his son Douglas Barth Garland (Karen); his sister Judy Garland Lamkin; his nieces Leslie Lamkin Brunjes (Jean) and Donna Melinus Jolly (Jerry); his nephews Marc Lamkin (Trina), David Barth Melinus (Selby), and Dr. Brian Henry Melinus (Jennifer); his grandchildren William Hatcher Garland and Alexis Amelia Garland, and Alexis' fiancé, Cole Lambert; and

WHEREAS, Neel was loyal, honest, and a man of keen intellect and shy humor, who possessed a quiet spirituality and dearly loved his family; and

WHEREAS, he represented all that is good about Louisiana as a man with unique gifts and a charitable spirit, and with his passing Louisiana has lost one of its finest citizens, who left an indelible mark on the lives of the many individuals whom he touched with his inspiring qualities and generosity, and who is now terribly missed but will never be forgotten.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Neel Emerson Garland upon the occasion of his death.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its appreciation for Neel Garland's enduring contributions, which shall long continue to be a source of deep honor for the city of Baton Rouge, the state of Louisiana, and many regions beyond, and does hereby pay tribute to his remarkable legacy, which shall live long in the hearts of those who were touched by his humanity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Frances Barth Garland.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE