

**ENROLLED**

First Extraordinary Session, 2002

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY SENATORS FONTENOT, HAINKEL, BAJOIE, BARHAM, BEAN, BOISSIERE, CAIN, CAMPBELL, CHAISSON, CRAVINS, DARDENNE, DEAN, DUPRE, ELLINGTON, FIELDS, GAUTREAUX, HEITMEIER, HINES, HOLDEN, HOLLIS, HOYT, IRONS, JOHNSON, B. JONES, C. JONES, LAMBERT, LENTINI, MALONE, MARIONNEAUX, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MOUNT, ROMERO, SCHEDLER, SMITH, TARVER, THEUNISSEN, THOMAS AND ULLO

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Dr. Thomas Greenwood Clausen, former state superintendent of education.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of Dr. Thomas Clausen on Wednesday, February 20, 2002, at the age of sixty-two; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Clausen, a native of Verdunville and a resident of Baton Rouge, received his undergraduate degree from the University of Southwestern Louisiana, his master of arts degree from Louisiana State University, and his doctorate from the University of Southern Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Clausen served as state superintendent of education from 1984 through 1988; and

WHEREAS, as superintendent of education, Dr. Clausen provided leadership for the implementation of new, more rigorous graduation requirements for the state's public schools, and greatly improved the elective course offerings for students; and

WHEREAS, he supervised the implementation of new processes for accrediting school systems and approving public schools; and

WHEREAS, he supervised the implementation of Louisiana's first required courses in computer literacy; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Clausen provided for enhanced curricula instruction in several areas, including mathematics, foreign languages, and the arts; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Clausen implemented changes in the K-12 curricula which resulted in more rigorous academic standards; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Clausen worked tirelessly and diligently to improve professional opportunities for all Louisiana educators, in particular classroom teachers; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Clausen coordinated the transition of the Department of Education into the State Civil Service system; and

WHEREAS, he worked to effect a smooth transition to Louisiana's first appointed superintendent of education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Clausen was a stalwart advocate for children with special learning needs and challenges and worked for the past two years as a special education teacher at Valley Park Alternative School; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in office, Dr. Clausen provided professional and dedicated leadership to the Louisiana education community and to the administration of the Louisiana Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Clausen was a past board member of the Commerce and Industry Board under Governor Mike Foster, and also served on the Superintendent's Task Force on Teacher Certification, the Governor's Advisory Council of Aerospace Education, and the Governor's Advisory Council on Developmental Disabilities; and

WHEREAS, he was a member of several organizations, including the Council of Chief State School Officers, the Louisiana Association of Educators, the Council for Exceptional Children, the Teacher Retirement Board of Trustees, and the National Evaluation of American Personnel and

Guidance Counselors; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas Clausen was an exemplary and highly admired citizen of Louisiana and an extraordinary public servant who shall forever be remembered for his life's work and accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the loss of Dr. Thomas Clausen has left a void in his family, friends, and the state of Louisiana and he will be greatly missed; and

WHEREAS, the memory of Dr. Thomas Clausen will remain eternal in the hearts and minds of his family, friends, and of all those who knew and loved him; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Thomas Clausen is survived by his wife of twenty-nine years, Gale Bell Clausen; two sons, Kyle and Kouri Clausen; a granddaughter, Trissten Reddy; a sister, Dr. Sally Clausen; a niece, Rebecca Clausen; a nephew, David Clausen; and a stepbrother, Kenneth Gray.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family of Dr. Thomas Greenwood Clausen.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his wife, Mrs. Gale Bell Clausen.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES