

By: Senator(s) Simmons (13th), Simmons
(12th), Norwood, Frazier

To: Rules

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 85

1 A RESOLUTION MOURNING THE PASSING AND COMMENDING THE
2 EFFECTIVE PUBLIC SERVICE OF FORMER MOUND BAYOU MAYOR EARL S. LUCAS
3 AND EXTENDING CONDOLENCES TO HIS SURVIVING FAMILY.

4 WHEREAS, we join the citizens of Mound Bayou, Mississippi, in
5 mourning the passing of former mayor Earl S. Lucas, who passed
6 away on March 31, 2024; and

7 WHEREAS, Earl S. Lucas was born on January 1, 1938, in
8 Renova, Bolivar County, Mississippi, to William Hyman Lucas, Sr.,
9 and Lillie Bell Rushing. He earned a B.A. in Political Science at
10 Dillard University in 1957. In the early 1960's, under the
11 sponsorship of the National Science Foundation, he took graduate
12 courses at Beloit College in Beloit, Wisconsin, and DePauw
13 University in Greencastle, Indiana; and

14 WHEREAS, from 1958 to 1964, he taught math and science in
15 Shelby, Mississippi. In 1965, he became Executive Director of the
16 Manpower Training Program in Systematic Training and
17 Redevelopment, Incorporated (STAR). As Executive Director, he
18 created an education program for poor and/or minority adult



19 residents of Bolivar County and assisted residents in finding
20 employment; and

21 WHEREAS, from 1969 to 1993, he served as mayor of Mound
22 Bayou, Mississippi. During his tenure as mayor, he secured
23 funding to pave streets, construct a water and sewer system and
24 build public facilities and housing; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Lucas was a founding member of the Southern
26 Conference of Black Mayors (SCBM) and held the office of Treasurer
27 from 1974 to 1980. He served as President of the Mississippi
28 Conference of Black Mayors and as Parliamentarian of the National
29 Conference of Black Mayors (successor to SCBM). In 1976,
30 President Jimmy Carter appointed him Chairman of the U.S. Public
31 Health Service Corps Advisory Council; and

32 WHEREAS, upon retiring from politics in 1993, he worked as a
33 consultant in healthcare and with the Delta Foundation in
34 Greenville, Mississippi, assisting minority business owners. Mr.
35 Lucas had been a founding member of the Delta Foundation and
36 served on its Board of Directors from 1969 to 1983; and

37 WHEREAS, he served on the Saint Gabriel Missionary Catholic
38 School Board in Mound Bayou and was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha
39 Fraternity, Incorporated. Throughout his life, he received
40 numerous awards for leadership and outstanding service to
41 organizations and communities; and

42 WHEREAS, Mr. Lucas was preceded in death by his parents and
43 brother, Willie B. Lucas, M.D. He is survived by his siblings



44 Izona Blue, Kathleen Holmas, William Hymon Lucas, Jr., Beatrice
45 Hall, Dorothy Lightfoot, Darrin Moore and Cynthia Watson. He is
46 also survived by his wife of 65 years, Marliee, and their
47 children: Eric Lucas, M.D., Vicki Lucas, Carla Lucas Wiley, Esq.,
48 Tina Lucas-Glass, M.D., Mark Lucas and Kendric Lucas.
49 Additionally, he is survived by his son, Jimmy Stokes, twenty
50 grandchildren, nineteen great-grandchildren, a host of cousins,
51 nieces and nephews; and

52 WHEREAS, we pay tribute and cherish fondly the memory of this
53 most public-spirited citizen of Mississippi whose enormous civic
54 energy is an example for all Mississippians:

55 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF
56 MISSISSIPPI, That we do hereby mourn the passing and commend the
57 effective public service of former Mound Bayou Mayor Earl S. Lucas
58 and extend condolences to his surviving family.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this resolution be presented to
60 the surviving family of Mayor Lucas, forwarded to the Board of
61 Aldermen of Mound Bayou and made available to the Capitol Press
62 Corps.

