

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 281

In Memory  
of  
John Belton Duncan Jr.

**WHEREAS**, The Senate of the State of Texas honors and commemorates the life of John Belton Duncan Jr., who died February 5, 2019, at the age of 82; and

**WHEREAS**, John Duncan was born on November 17, 1936, in Haskell, to John Belton Duncan Sr. and Lucille Kendall Duncan; he graduated from Haskell High School in 1955, where he was a senior class officer and captain of the football team; and

**WHEREAS**, He graduated from Austin College in 1959 and went on to earn a doctorate at Tulane University as part of an advanced economics program of the United States Department of State; he taught economics at Xavier University, Loyola University, and Austin College, and in 1965, he joined the faculty of Texas Tech University, where he was a leader in the faculty movement against the Vietnam War; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1974, he was named executive director of the Texas Civil Liberties Union, and he moved with his family to Austin; over the course of his service with the organization, he earned a reputation as a staunch advocate for social justice and equal opportunity and became known as someone who could work effectively with both sides of the political aisle; and

**WHEREAS**, He joined the Office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts in 1985 as director of the legislative analysis group, and he later served with the Texas Public Utilities Commission under Commissioners Jo Campbell and Robert Gee; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Duncan and his first wife, Sara Holderbaum, were blessed with a daughter, Jennifer Rebecca Duncan, in 1968; he later married Becky Beaver and they became the parents of twins, William Andrew Duncan and James Matthew Duncan; his children and his granddaughter, Chloe Sanders, were a source of much pride and joy for him; and

**WHEREAS**, A man of strength, wisdom, and generosity, he gave unselfishly to others, and his commitment to public service, his courage in the face of adversity, and his enthusiasm for living each day to the fullest will not be forgotten; and

**WHEREAS**, He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, and he leaves behind memories that will be treasured forever by all who were privileged to share in his life; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 86th Legislature, hereby extend sincere condolences to the bereaved family of John Belton Duncan Jr.; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be prepared for his family as an expression of deepest sympathy from the Texas Senate and that when the Senate adjourns this day, it do so in memory of John Duncan.

Watson

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President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 27, 2019, by a rising vote.

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Secretary of the Senate

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Member, Texas Senate