WHEREAS, Ernest Durham Wooton, a former distinguished member of the Louisiana Legislature, died at the age of 78 on Friday, May 29, 2020;

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife of 53 years, Linda, their three children, Jeffrey, Kimberly, and John, nine grandchildren and step-grandchildren, and several great-grandchildren;

WHEREAS, he served his nation honorably in the United States Army from 1964-1966;

WHEREAS, he entered into public service in 1984 and served as Sheriff of Plaquemines Parish for two terms, during which time he founded the Plaquemines Parish Sheriff’s Office Shooting Range and Junior Deputy Grounds in Myrtle Grove, as well as helping to coordinate a state-wide torch run for the Special Olympics;

WHEREAS, he served the parishes of Plaquemines, Jefferson, and St. Charles and his home of Belle Chasse in the Louisiana Legislature for twelve years, first elected to the House of Representatives in 1999, where he served for three terms; and

WHEREAS, Ernest Durham Wooton lived his life with integrity and honor, and his public service as a lawmaker to the State of Louisiana will long be remembered.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: As an expression of respect for Ernest Durham Wooton, the flags of the United States and the State of Louisiana shall be flown at half-staff over the State Capitol from sunrise until sunset on Thursday, June 4, 2020.

SECTION 2: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until sunset, Thursday, June 4, 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 2nd day of June, 2020.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRETARY OF STATE