

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 194

BY REPRESENTATIVES BROADWATER, ABRAMSON, ADAMS, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, BADON, BARRAS, BARROW, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, STUART BISHOP, WESLEY BISHOP, BROWN, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARMODY, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, CHANEY, CONNICK, COX, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOVE, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GAROFALO, GEYMANN, GISCLAIR, GREENE, GUILLORY, GUINN, HARRIS, HARRISON, HAVARD, HAZEL, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HONORE, HOWARD, HUNTER, HUVAL, IVEY, KATRINA JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JOHNSON, JONES, KLECKLEY, LAMBERT, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LEOPOLD, LOPINTO, LORUSSO, MACK, MILLER, MONTOUCET, MORENO, JAY MORRIS, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, ORTEGO, PEARSON, PIERRE, PONTI, POPE, PRICE, PUGH, PYLANT, REYNOLDS, RICHARD, RITCHIE, ROBIDEAUX, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SHADOIN, SIMON, SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, STOKES, TALBOT, THIBAUT, THIERRY, THOMPSON, WHITNEY, ALFRED WILLIAMS, PATRICK WILLIAMS, WILLMOTT, AND WOODRUFF AND SENATORS ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD, AND WHITE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the legislature upon the death of Frank M. Edwards, Jr., of Amite and to recognize his distinguished career as an attorney, sheriff, and public servant to his community and to the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of the dedicated public servant, Frank M. Edwards, Jr., on April 17, 2014, at the age of seventy-eight; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards was born on October 12, 1935, to Frank M. Edwards and Lillian Bel Edwards; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards graduated from Amite High School in 1953 and Louisiana State University Law School in 1960, after which he embarked on an exceptional fifty-four year legal career and a sixty-year career in public service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards enjoyed a fifty-seven year marriage to his wife, Dora Jean Miller Edwards, during which the couple was blessed with eight children and their spouses: Alice Edwards Stevens and her husband, Alvin; Frank M. Edwards III and his wife, Kathy Sue; Clay Edwards and his wife, Dianne; Andrew Edwards and his wife, Belinda; Morgan Edwards; John Bel Edwards and his wife, Donna; Daniel Edwards and his wife, Blair; and the late Christopher Edwards and his wife, Brenda; and

WHEREAS, at the time of his departure from this world, Mr. Edwards was the grandfather of twenty-four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and was expecting a fourth great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, a devout Catholic, Mr. Edwards was a life-long parishioner at St. Helena Catholic Church where he was an active member of the Knights of Columbus Council 10911; and

WHEREAS, together with his wife Dora, Mr. Edwards led a meaningful and philanthropic life, serving the less fortunate in his community with selfless and tireless dedication through his involvement in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul; and

WHEREAS, in February of 2014, Mr. Edwards was honored, along with his family, as they were recognized by the Louisiana Political Museum and Hall of Fame as the 2014 Louisiana Political Family of Officeholders Award recipients for generations of service to their community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards and his family were honored for dedicating over two hundred years and six generations in public service to the state of Louisiana, including the remarkable accomplishment and honor of serving Tangipahoa Parish as sheriffs for four generations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Edwards began his distinguished career in public service in 1968 when he was first elected as Tangipahoa Parish Sheriff, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather; and

WHEREAS, Sheriff Edwards served in that capacity until 1980, during which time he was given the prestigious honor of serving as a delegate at the 1973 Louisiana Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, in a continued illustration of his tireless drive to serve the state of Louisiana, Mr. Edwards served as Assistant Commissioner of Administration for Governor Edwin Edwards from 1983 to 1986; and

WHEREAS, a longtime member, Mr. Edwards enjoyed spending his leisure time in the most beautiful gun club in America, the Florida Parishes Skeet and Gun Association in Amite; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, Mr. Edwards was chosen to represent Amite as the Oyster King which is a great honor that illustrated his illustrious standing in the community; and

WHEREAS, with the death of Frank M. Edwards, Jr., Louisiana has lost one of her finest sons, a deeply beloved individual who was known for his dedication to public service; and

WHEREAS, although the death of Mr. Edwards has left a tremendous void in his community, his memory shall live forever in the hearts and minds of all who knew and loved him.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences on the death of one of the state's most honorable and dedicated public servants, Mr. Frank M. Edwards, Jr., and does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable accomplishments and singular contributions and extend enduring appreciation for the pride and honor that he will forever bring to his family and friends, the city of Amite, and the state of Louisiana, and does hereby express the deep regret of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the loss of such an extraordinary gentleman.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mrs. Dora Jean Miller Edwards.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE