

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 89

BY SENATORS CLAITOR, ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CHABERT, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LONG, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE AND REPRESENTATIVES ABRAHAM, ABRAMSON, AMEDEE, ANDERS, ARMES, BACALA, BAGLEY, BAGNERIS, BARRAS, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, BISHOP, BOUIE, BROADWATER, CHAD BROWN, TERRY BROWN, CARMODY, CARPENTER, GARY CARTER, ROBBY CARTER, STEVE CARTER, CHANEY, CONNICK, COUSSAN, COX, CREWS, CROMER, DANAHAY, DAVIS, DEVILLIER, DWIGHT, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FALCONER, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GAROFALO, GISCLAIR, GLOVER, GUINN, HALL, JIMMY HARRIS, LANCE HARRIS, HAVARD, HAZEL, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILFERTY, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HORTON, HOWARD, HUNTER, HUVAL, IVEY, JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, JOHNSON, JONES, JORDAN, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LEOPOLD, LYONS, MACK, MAGEE, MARCELLE, MARINO, MCFARLAND, MIGUEZ, DUSTIN MILLER, GREGORY MILLER, MORENO, JAY MORRIS, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, PEARSON, PIERRE, POPE, PRICE, PUGH, PYLANT, REYNOLDS, RICHARD, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SHADOIN, SIMON, SMITH, STAGNI, STEFANSKI, STOKES, TALBOT, THIBAUT, THOMAS, WHITE AND ZERINGUE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Curt Eysink, former executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

WHEREAS, the members of the Louisiana Legislature, especially those who worked closely with him, were deeply saddened to hear of the death of Curt Eysink on April 28, 2017, at the age of fifty-three; and

WHEREAS, born in South Africa, Curt Eysink lived with his family in the Netherlands, Venezuela, Scotland, and Australia, as his father pursued a career in the petroleum industry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eysink, at fifteen, moved with his family to New Orleans, Louisiana, when his father accepted a position in the Crescent City; he attended Louisiana State University and graduated in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in journalism; and

WHEREAS, Curt Eysink went to work at *The Advocate* as a reporter proving himself in jobs with increasing responsibility and being named city editor in 2002; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Eysink's colleagues at the newspaper found him to be a leader who never gave up regardless of the difficulties in obtaining the story, and he was credited with leading the coverage of the shocking number of unsolved murders of young women in Baton Rouge in a single ten-year period; and

WHEREAS, in 2004, Curt Eysink left the newspaper to become a marketing executive with the *Louisiana Healthcare Review*; he moved to the Louisiana Workforce Commission in 2008 as communications director; and

WHEREAS, the executive director of the commission at the beginning of the administration, Tim Barfield, tapped Eysink to be his chief of staff and Barfield complimented Eysink saying that he "Had a lot of vision, an incredible capacity for learning, and quickly became my number two on the management team"; and

WHEREAS, the governor and legislature had called for a new approach for the re-named Department of Labor, focusing directly upon creating a qualified workforce ready to fill the jobs available in the twenty-first century; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Barfield also stated that Eysink "became one of the chief architects of the workforce development redesign", an ambitious task that the new administration foresaw as a necessity for the workforce commission to fulfill its mission and its commitment to the citizens of the great state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Curt Eysink was appointed executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission in 2009, when Tim Barfield moved to the governor's staff as general counsel, and Mr. Eysink served until 2016 when a new governor was elected; and

WHEREAS, Senator Neil Riser served as chairman of the Senate Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations during much of Eysink's tenure at the commission and he recalled that "Curt was a man of impeccable character, a pleasure to work with, and I was proud to call him a friend"; and

WHEREAS, while leading the commission, Mr. Eysink spearheaded the implementation of the HIRE system, where those who come to sign up for unemployment are now required to register for work, not a requirement in many states; and

WHEREAS, while heading the Louisiana Workforce Commission, Eysink was also active in the National Association of State Workforce Agencies and served as president of the organization; and

WHEREAS, after his work at the workforce commission, Curt Eysink oversaw workforce policy for the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, an endeavor of which he was very proud; and

WHEREAS, Curt Eysink leaves to cherish their memories of him and his impact on all of their lives, his wife, Dianne; his children, Samantha, Maxwell, and Adelaide; his parents Ute and Billy Eysink; and other family members and friends; and

WHEREAS, it is likely that, beyond his love for his family and his faith, Mr. Eysink's greatest legacies of his public life were to help change the culture at the Louisiana Workforce Commission, from one simply focused on work for the unemployed to one that focused on outcomes, putting the unemployed in jobs where they could be successful, while filling a need of the new employer and his work in education through the community and technical colleges in the state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences upon the death of Curt Eysink, former executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Dianne Eysink.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES