

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 126

BY REPRESENTATIVE GISCLAIR AND SENATORS CHABERT AND ALARIO AND REPRESENTATIVES ABRAMSON, ADAMS, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, BADON, BARRAS, BARROW, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, STUART BISHOP, WESLEY BISHOP, BROADWATER, BROWN, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARMODY, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, CHANEY, CONNICK, COX, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOVE, EDWARDS, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GAROFALO, GEYMANN, 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, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, 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 condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of former State Representative Richard P. "Dick" Guidry of Galliano.

WHEREAS, with the death of former State Representative Richard "Dick" Guidry of Lafourche Parish on Wednesday, March 26, 2014, at the age of eighty-four, Louisiana has lost one of the most notable figures in the rich chronicles of Louisiana politics; and

WHEREAS, Richard P. "Dick" Guidry was born on September 22, 1929, to John L. Guidry and Lillian L. Guidry and he grew up by the Galliano bridge in Lafourche Parish, graduated from Golden Meadow High School, and briefly attended LSU; and

WHEREAS, recognized upon his induction into the Louisiana Political Hall of Fame earlier this year as the youngest person to be elected to the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana, Dick Guidry served in the House of Representatives from 1952 through 1956 and again from 1964 through 1976; and

WHEREAS, during his legislative career Representative Guidry served on many standing committees, perhaps most significantly as chairman of the House Committee on the Judiciary, Section B from 1968 to 1976; Jud B, as it was called at that time, was viewed as the governor's committee, the committee to which bills especially favored by the governor were referred regardless of subject matter; as chairman of Jud B and a floor leader, Dick Guidry was a key player in the highly productive first term of Governor Edwin Edwards and responsible for moving along much of the legislation in that historic term; and

WHEREAS, Dick Guidry had a remarkable legislative career serving Lafourche Parish where he is still remembered for transformational infrastructure projects that changed Lafourche Parish from a time before lift bridges allowed easy access across Bayou Lafourche, which splits the parish lengthwise, before levees protected south Lafourche in storms, when drinking water came from cisterns, and before giant ships docked at Port Fourchon; Representative Guidry's vision and legislative efforts produced such improvements as more bridges across the bayou, a pump station that pumps Mississippi River water into the bayou to provide fresh water for a quarter-million residents of five parishes, the South Lafourche Levee District that has provided a ring levee to protect the south Lafourche area, and hospital districts for hospitals in Galliano and Raceland, and he was instrumental in creating the Greater Lafourche Port Commission as well; and

WHEREAS, these accomplishments demonstrate the vision and optimism of this remarkable man; he was a man of action, unafraid to take risks, to take on difficult problems and seek to solve them; his career in business demonstrated the same attitude, for he was involved in real estate development, had a booming drive-in movie theater business, and had business ventures in banking, oil exploration, and offshore towing vessels that operated worldwide; and

WHEREAS, Dick Guidry also served Louisiana as a member of the Louisiana Constitutional Convention of 1973, which achieved the almost impossible task of completely rewriting and dramatically shortening the state constitution, and he served as a member of the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Compact; and

WHEREAS, former House Speaker Bubba Henry captured Dick Guidry well when he said: "He was the most generous, hard-working, funny and sincere person I knew. ... He was a good-spirited, charming person. It was hard to turn Dick down. ... He could get his

dander up ... and let you know how he felt in spades.", and those who knew him remember him as an iconic politician and a legislative magician, and they recall the wonderful, slight smile and most especially the twinkle that was almost always present in his eyes; and

WHEREAS, Dick Guidry is survived by his wife of sixty-two years, Phyllis G. Guidry, his children Dennis Guidry and wife Carol, David Guidry and wife Mary, Phyllis "Fe Fe" Guidry, Lillie Ledet and husband Tad, and Lisa Guidry Rogers, by seven grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, by his brother Robert Guidry and his sister Rosie G. Harris, and by numerous nieces and nephews, and in addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son R. Paul Guidry and his brother Lloyd Guidry.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences to the family and friends of former State Representative Richard P. "Dick" Guidry of Galliano upon his death and does record in the annals of legislative accomplishments, not only the legendary service of Dick Guidry to the people of Lafourche Parish and to the state of Louisiana, but also the special place this quintessential South Louisiana Cajun legislator will always have in the celebrated history of the Louisiana Legislature.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to members of the family of former State Representative Dick Guidry.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE