

Regular Session, 2012

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1

BY REPRESENTATIVE LORUSSO

A RESOLUTION

To commend James Edward "Jimmy" Fitzmorris, Jr., for a lifetime of remarkable achievements on the memorable occasion of his ninetieth birthday.

WHEREAS, it was a day of great celebration on November 15, 1921, when James Edward "Jimmy" Fitzmorris, Jr., took his first breath as the son of James and Romolia Fitzmorris; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fitzmorris and his late wife of fifty years, Gloria, shared a host of accomplishments, but none produced a greater sense of pride than their daughter and son-in-law, Lisa and Bruce, and their granddaughters, Madeline Gloria and Meredith Rose; and

WHEREAS, a 1939 graduate of Jesuit High School, Mr. Fitzmorris studied business administration at Loyola University before serving his country with valor and fortitude in the United States Army from 1942 until 1946, rising from private to major; he served in the Army Ready Reserves for nearly twenty years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fitzmorris enjoyed a successful thirty-two-year career with the Kansas City Southern Railway Company, rising from his position as messenger boy to vice president of the company; he retired in 1972 and remains one of the company's most valued advisors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fitzmorris is held in the highest esteem as a gentleman who has fully used every opportunity to serve his fellow citizens in an honorable and dedicated manner as a two-term lieutenant governor, twelve-year member of the New Orleans City Council, one of the pioneers of the development of the Louisiana Superdome, and longtime board member at Mount Carmel Academy, to name just a few of the many hats he has worn in his long and extremely productive life and career; and

WHEREAS, upon his retirement after thirty years of public service, he formed Fitzmorris and Associates, Inc., where he still puts in a full day of work as president and chief executive officer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Fitzmorris, who has lent his time and talents to countless community and civic organizations and been the deserving recipient of numerous honors and awards, holds a special place in the annals of Louisiana history as one of the truest statesmen ever to serve this great state; and

WHEREAS, seldom has there been a citizen of this state who has earned the reputation for integrity that is enjoyed by Jimmy Fitzmorris, who is known as a man of his word and a man who has accomplished much by the sheer force of his own personal intelligence, strength, and credibility; and

WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana will long reap the benefits of his profoundly significant legacy, and his fellow citizens recognize this proud member of the Greatest Generation as a living legend; and

WHEREAS, Jimmy Fitzmorris, a most distinguished and beloved son of Louisiana, merits a sincere measure of commendation for his singular contributions and his exemplary accomplishments as he is lauded and recognized on the historic celebration of the nine extraordinary decades during which he has graced the city of New Orleans, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America with his presence.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend James Edward "Jimmy" Fitzmorris, Jr., upon the celebration of his ninetieth birthday, does hereby recognize that he exemplifies all that is good about Louisiana, does hereby record the extraordinary life he has lived in the ninety years since that fateful fifteenth day of November in the year nineteen hundred twenty-one, does hereby extend enduring gratitude for the unparalleled contributions he has made to his family, friends, city, state, and nation, and does hereby extend to him best wishes for continued success and happiness in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Jimmy Fitzmorris.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES