HLS 183ES-94 ORIGINAL

2018 Third Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 14

1

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEGER, BOUIE, DUPLESSIS, AND JIMMY HARRIS

A RESOLUTION

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of Felicia Kahn

2	To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Felicia Kahn.
3	WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the
4	Louisiana House of Representatives have learned of the death of Felicia Kahn on June 21,
5	2018, at the age of ninety-one; and
6	WHEREAS, Felicia Kahn was a political activist and social justice advocate; a
7	lifelong Democrat, she remained actively involved in politics and the women's rights
8	movement in Louisiana until her death; and
9	WHEREAS, Ms. Kahn was born on July 11, 1926, only six years after the nineteenth
10	amendment granted American women the right to vote; she grew up in New Orleans and,
11	after graduating from Isidore Newman School, she attended Newcomb College where she
12	earned a degree in sociology; and
13	WHEREAS, as a student, she volunteered with the League of Women Voters of New
14	Orleans, helping register women to vote; after graduating, she worked for the city's welfare
15	department and could see firsthand systemic problems stemming from segregation; she
16	supported the integration of the league and joined the league in lobbying for passage of the
17	Equal Rights Amendment; and
18	WHEREAS, she served as the league's president in the late 1960s and was especially
19	interested in expanding voter access, ensuring polls were open at daybreak so working
20	people could vote early; and

1	WHEREAS, she later became actively involved in partisan politics, helping
2	generations of women in politics at every level, from the U.S. Senate and the New Orleans
3	City Council to the Orleans Parish School Board; she was a volunteer for Moon Landrieu's
4	campaign for mayor of New Orleans in 1970; she also worked for Congresswoman Lindy
5	Boggs; and
6	WHEREAS, in 1972, she worked with the National Women's Political Caucus to
7	encourage women to attend the Democratic convention; that same year, she won a seat on
8	the Democratic State Central Committee backed by Mayor Landrieu and the New Orleans
9	Coalition; this was among the highest offices women in New Orleans sought at the time; and
10	WHEREAS, Ms. Kahn joined Jimmy Carter's presidential campaign in 1976 and was
11	appointed to the convention's Rules Committee; later, in 2010, Ms. Kahn revived the
12	Independent Women's Organization, after a period of inactivity, and became its president
13	at age eighty-four; and
14	WHEREAS, her tenacity and drive were unyielding and her notable accomplishments
15	included being the second oldest delegate to the 2016 Democratic Convention; she missed
16	only one convention since 1976, often serving as a delegate; in 2016, she was awarded the
17	Lifetime Achievement Award from the Louisiana Democratic Party; and
18	WHEREAS, the many contributions Felicia Kahn made to women in politics and the
19	Democratic Party in New Orleans and the state of Louisiana reflect a purpose-filled life; and
20	WHEREAS, Felicia Kahn is survived by her children, Charles N. "Chip" Kahn, III,
21	Elizabeth Kahn, and Felicia Kahn Michelson; brother, Richard Schornstein; and three
22	grandchildren.
23	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
24	Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express condolences upon the death of Felicia Kahn
25	and does hereby recognize and record Ms. Kahn's major contributions to her community and
26	her state during a lifetime of advocacy and commitment to democracy and social justice.
27	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
28	to the family of Felicia Kahn.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 14 Original

2018 Third Extraordinary Session

Leger

Expresses condolences upon the death of Felicia Kahn of New Orleans, political activist and social justice advocate.