

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 159

BY REPRESENTATIVES HARDY, ABRAMSON, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, AUBERT, AUSTIN BADON, BOBBY BADON, BALDONE, BARRAS, BARROW, BILLIOT, BROSSETT, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARMODY, CARTER, CHAMPAGNE, CHANDLER, CHANEY, CONNICK, CORTEZ, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOERGE, DOVE, DOWNS, EDWARDS, ELLINGTON, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GALLOT, GEYMANN, GISCLAIR, GREENE, GUILLORY, GUINN, HARRISON, HAZEL, HENDERSON, HENRY, HILL, HINES, HOFFMANN, HONORE, HOWARD, HUTTER, GIROD JACKSON, MICHAEL JACKSON, JOHNSON, ROSALIND JONES, SAM JONES, KATZ, KLECKLEY, LABRUZZO, LAFONTA, LAMBERT, LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LIGI, LITTLE, LOPINTO, LORUSSO, MCVEA, MILLS, MONICA, MONTOUCET, MORENO, MORRIS, NORTON, NOWLIN, PEARSON, PERRY, PONTI, POPE, PUGH, RICHARD, RICHARDSON, RICHMOND, RITCHIE, ROBIDEAUX, ROY, SCHRODER, SIMON, SMILEY, GARY SMITH, JANE SMITH, PATRICIA SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, STIAES, TALBOT, TEMPLET, THIBAUT, THIERRY, TUCKER, WADDELL, WHITE, WILLIAMS, WILLMOTT, AND WOOTON

A RESOLUTION

To express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the deaths of Jason Anderson, Aaron Dale Burkeen, Donald Clark, Stephen Curtis, Roy Wyatt Kemp, Karl Kleppinger, Jr., Gordon Jones, Blair Manuel, Dewey Revette, Shane Roshto, and Adam Weise, who lost their lives in the Deepwater Horizon explosion on April 20, 2010.

WHEREAS, it was with profound shock and sorrow that the members of the Louisiana House of Representatives learned of the tragic deaths of Jason Anderson, Aaron Dale Burkeen, Donald Clark, Stephen Curtis, Roy Wyatt Kemp, Karl Kleppinger, Jr., Gordon Jones, Blair Manuel, Dewey Revette, Shane Roshto, and Adam Weise, who were killed in the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig on April 20, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Jason Anderson was born on November 22, 1974, in Freeport, Texas, the son of Billy Fred Anderson and Darlene White and the younger brother of Stephanie Kathleen; he was a middle linebacker for the Tidehaven High School football team, attended Wharton County Junior College, and went into the oil field business, excelling at his job and receiving numerous promotions; he married his soulmate, Shelley Simons Anderson, in

2002, and in recent years, they lived in Midfield, Texas, with their two children, Lacy Kathleen and Ryver Clay; a member of Midfield Community Church, he was fun-loving, spontaneous, and known for his Texas two-step, and he enjoyed hunting, golfing, and traveling with his family in their motor home; he is survived by his wife, children, parents, brother, Jacob Ryne, numerous other family members, and friends who were like brothers to him; and

WHEREAS, Aaron Dale Burkeen of Philadelphia, Mississippi, was born on April 24, 1972, was a loving husband, a committed father of two, the brother of two sisters, and the son of proud parents; he attended Neshoba Central High School and East Central Community College, was a crane operator who worked for Transocean for ten years, and was an avid deer hunter and fisherman; his survivors include his wife, Rhonda Burkeen, his parents, Mary Bryan Burkeen and Roger Burkeen, his daughter, Aryn Sydney Burkeen, his son, Timothy Dale Burkeen, his sisters, and his nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, and cousins; and

WHEREAS, Donald Clark of Newellton, Louisiana, was a soybean farmer like his father before going to work on the Deepwater Horizon rig; he was a dedicated worker, a family man, a fisherman, and a Christian who devoted his life to his beloved wife, Sheila, and four children; and he was known throughout his community for his good heart, his calmness, his smile, and for always being willing to lend a helping hand; and

WHEREAS, Stephen Curtis was a 1987 graduate of Georgetown High School in Grant Parish, Louisiana, and is survived by his wife, Nancy, his son and daughter, his granddaughter, and his parents, Howard and Betty Sharp Curtis; active in his church, he was a Christian who taught a Bible class with his wife, and he participated in a Bible study on the rig; and he was a proud Marine and a volunteer firefighter and had been in the oil business for seventeen years; and

WHEREAS, Gordon Jones of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was born on June 26, 1981, and was a loving husband, father, son, and brother; he was a graduate of St. Aloysius Catholic School, Catholic High School, and Louisiana State University; he was a friend to all, enjoyed spending time with his family, was an excellent golfer and joke teller, and loved to laugh; he is survived by his wife, Michelle Mummert Jones, his sons, Stafford Hess Jones and Maxwell Gordon Jones, who was born the month after his father died, his mother,

Eilleen Kean Jones, his father, Keith Dunn Jones, his brother, his sister, his grandparents, and numerous other relatives, nieces, nephews, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Roy Wyatt Kemp was born on January 21, 1983, in Ferriday, Louisiana, to Peggy Kemp and the late Sandy Lee Kemp, was a resident of Jonesville, Louisiana, and was a member of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Jonesville; he was a devoted husband, father, son, and grandson, but most of all he was a man who loved the Lord; an avid fisherman and hunter who served in the Army for a time, he had a unique sense of humor and loved the outdoors and spending time with his family, friends, hunting dog Ellie, and fellow crewmen of the Deepwater Horizon; and he is survived by his wife and best friend, Courtney Carpenter Kemp, his children, Kaylee Joyce Kemp and Clara Maddison Kemp, his mother, Peggy Kemp, his brother and sisters and their spouses, his grandparents and great-grandmother, his in-laws, and numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Karl Kleppinger, Jr., was born on August 21, 1971, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, was a beloved husband and father, and was a United States Army veteran of Operation Desert Storm; he was a family man who enjoyed watching NASCAR and cooking barbeque, was employed by Transocean for ten years, and considered his crewmates on the Deepwater Horizon his second family; and his survivors include his wife, Tracy Kleppinger, his son, Aaron Kleppinger, his parents, Karl Dale Kleppinger, Sr., and Jo Ann Kleppinger, two sisters, two brothers, his grandmother, Barbara Thornhill, his in-laws, and a number of aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Blair Manuel was a native of Eunice, Louisiana, and a resident of St. Amant, Louisiana, attended St. Edmund's Elementary School and Eunice High School, and was very active in his community, serving as a member of the St. Anthony of Padua Parish Council and as president of the Eunice Jaycees; he loved spending time with his fiancée, family, and friends, hunting and fishing, white water rafting, traveling, gardening, and attending LSU football and baseball games as an avid fan and season ticket holder; he had a winning smile and a compassionate heart and is survived by his parents, L.D. and Geneva Manuel, his beloved fiancée, Melinda Becnel, three daughters, Kelli Manuel Taquino, Jessica Manuel Manchester, and Ashley Jo Manuel, his sister, and his brothers; and

WHEREAS, Dewey Revette was born on May 27, 1961, to Arthur Dewey Revette, Jr., and Katherine Revette and was a native of Waynesboro, Mississippi, and a resident of State Line, Mississippi; he had been with the Transocean drilling company for twenty-nine years and was a highly skilled driller; a widely respected and admired gentleman, he is survived by his wife, Sheryl "Sherri" Revette, his mother, two daughters, Andrea Cochran and Alicia Revette, his brother, Kenneth Revette, and his sister, Ann Byrd; and

WHEREAS, Shane Michael Roshto was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and his family moved to Liberty, Mississippi, in 1999; he was a great husband and father who never met a stranger, enjoyed the outdoors, and was an inspiration to his friends and family; he loved his job, was ambitious, and had a strong work ethic and wrote the dates of his wedding day and his son's birthday inside his hard hat; and he is survived by his wife, Natalie, his three-year-old son, Blaine Michael, his mother, Denise, his stepfather, Bobby Arnold, his father and stepmother, Ronnie and Debbie Roshto, his sister and brother, his nieces and nephews, his grandparents, his in-laws, and numerous co-workers and friends; and

WHEREAS, Adam Weise of Yorktown, Texas, was born in Cuero on January 19, 1986, and was a 2005 graduate of Yorktown High School, where he played football, received Second Team All-District honors, and was named one of the Wildcats' outstanding linemen; an avid hunter and fisherman who was honest, hardworking, joyful, good with children, and a great friend, he is survived by his grandmother, Nelda Winslette, his mother, Arleen Weise, his brother, Christopher Weise, his sisters, Gwen Weise and Sara Weise, his girlfriend, Cindy Shelton, and his nephews, nieces, aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends; and

WHEREAS, mere words cannot begin to express the depths of the tremendous void that the deaths of these men have left in the lives of their families and friends, and their passings have created a genuine sense of grief and loss in the hearts of their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, with the deaths of these individuals, their families, friends, and fellow citizens have lost men whose contributions have left an indelible mark on every person whose life they touched; and

WHEREAS, these gentlemen deserve honor, recognition, gratitude, and respect for the joy that they brought to their family, friends, communities, states, and nation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences upon the deaths of Jason Anderson, Aaron Dale Burkeen, Donald Clark, Stephen Curtis, Roy Wyatt Kemp, Karl Kleppinger, Jr., Gordon Jones, Blair Manuel, Dewey Revette, Shane Roshto, and Adam Weise, who lost their lives in the Deepwater Horizon explosion on April 20, 2010, does hereby extend heartfelt sympathies to their families as they mourn the tragic loss of their loved ones, and does hereby recognize that the memories of these extraordinary men shall live forever in the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved them.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the families of Jason Anderson, Aaron Dale Burkeen, Donald Clark, Stephen Curtis, Roy Wyatt Kemp, Karl Kleppinger, Jr., Gordon Jones, Blair Manuel, Dewey Revette, Shane Roshto, and Adam Weise.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES