

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 177

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

A RESOLUTION

To commend R. King Milling for twenty years of service to the restoration and protection of the coast of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, R. King Milling followed two successful careers in law and banking with a third working for the protection, restoration, and conservation of coastal Louisiana; he paired his love for Louisiana wetlands and firsthand experiences while hunting and fishing with a natural penchant for translating both science and passion into the language of policy and action; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Milling has shown a clear understanding of the profound and far-reaching economic implications that the continued loss of Louisiana's wetlands has for both the state and the nation; he was among the first to see beyond the environmental and cultural tragedy Louisiana faces in the destruction of its wetlands; and

WHEREAS, additionally, Mr. Milling helped the business community understand the importance of working alongside the environmental community to engage with a problem of mutual concern; he used his well-earned reputation to bring attention to the issue of coastal land loss to the highest levels of power; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Milling was called upon by Governor Mike Foster in 2001 to lead the Committee on the Future of Coastal Louisiana; the committee created recommendations for expanding and fully implementing a statewide coastal restoration program; and

WHEREAS, in addition to this role, Mr. Milling fought for the conservation of Louisiana's coast in numerous additional capacities; he was the founding chairman of the board for the America's Wetland Foundation, which sought to bring a greater nationwide

awareness of Louisiana's land loss crisis, and he successfully led the Governor's Advisory Commission for Coastal Protection, Restoration, and Conservation for twenty years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Milling was also a dedicated member of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority board under four Louisiana governors through seven administrations; he served since its inception in 2007 following the devastating impacts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Milling bridged the worlds of finance and coastal restoration by serving on the Coastal Protection and Restoration Financing Corporation to pursue the bonding of Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act revenues and later *Deepwater Horizon* settlement revenues for the implementation of coastal restoration and protection projects; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Milling began serving on the board of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation in 2013 when it began to oversee and implement a \$2.54 billion settlement agreement for the restoration of natural resources in the Gulf of Mexico after the devastation of the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill; he also served on the Atchafalaya River Basin Restoration and Enhancement Task Force during its work, in 2020 and 2021, to help elevate the critical issues facing the basin and build support for projects to reinvigorate the system; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Milling has also been an unwavering and vocal supporter of Louisiana's roadmap for the future of the coast, known as the 50-year Coastal Master Plan; he has been successful in moving the issue of Louisiana's coastal land loss crisis into the center of conversations about the future health, well-being, and existence of the state, and he has continuously been both fiercely independent and loyal to the cause of preserving Louisiana's coast for this and future generations; he is most deserving of the highest recognition.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend R. King Milling for twenty years of service to the restoration and protection of the coast of Louisiana; does hereby further recognize him for his genuine commitment to and passion for Louisiana's coast which he displays with unique elegance, refined manner, and engaging repartee; and does hereby extend to him

sincerest wishes that he continue to enjoy abundant health and prosperity as he continues his life in the coastal areas of Louisiana that he has helped to protect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to R. King Milling.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES