

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 53

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LONG, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE AND REPRESENTATIVES ABRAHAM, ABRAMSON, AMEDEE, ANDERS, ARMES, BACALA, BAGLEY, BAGNERIS, BARRAS, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, BISHOP, BOUIE, BROADWATER, CHAD BROWN, TERRY BROWN, CARMODY, CARPENTER, GARY CARTER, ROBBY CARTER, STEVE CARTER, CHANEY, CONNICK, COUSSAN, COX, CROMER, DANAHAY, DAVIS, DEVILLIER, DWIGHT, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FALCONER, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GAROFALO, GISCLAIR, GLOVER, GUINN, HALL, JIMMY HARRIS, LANCE HARRIS, HAVARD, HAZEL, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILFERTY, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HORTON, HOWARD, HUNTER, HUVAL, IVEY, JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, JOHNSON, JONES, JORDAN, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LEOPOLD, LYONS, MACK, MAGEE, MARCELLE, MARINO, MCFARLAND, MIGUEZ, DUSTIN MILLER, GREGORY MILLER, MORENO, JAY MORRIS, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, PEARSON, PIERRE, POPE, PRICE, PUGH, PYLANT, REYNOLDS, RICHARD, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SHADOIN, SIMON, SMITH, STAGNI, STEFANSKI, STOKES, TALBOT, THIBAUT, THOMAS, WHITE AND ZERINGUE

## A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the passing of a beloved gentleman, renowned lobbyist, community activist, and former member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, the Honorable Ralph R. Miller, and to celebrate a life well lived in service to the betterment of the state of Louisiana.

WHEREAS, it was with deep remorse that the membership of the Legislature of Louisiana had learned of the passing of a longtime colleague, Ralph Miller, on Thursday, March 30, 2017, at the age of eighty-two; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Miller had the rare privilege to serve twenty-two years in the House of Representatives from 1968 until 1980 and again from 1984 until 1992, representing the voters of House District Fifty-six composed of the parishes of St. Charles, St. James, and St. John the Baptist at that time; and

WHEREAS, Ralph was an affable gentleman blessed with a quick smile and a wry sense of humor; he possessed an innate self-confidence, charisma, and a profound

understanding of the complexities of issues affecting the populous of South Louisiana; and who, through diligence and tenacity, led a fascinating life experiencing success in nearly every endeavor; and

WHEREAS, when first elected to the House, Ralph Miller was among the young movers and shakers who gave rise to the vanguard for change known as the "Young Turks"; leaders destined to become future elected officials who would contribute immeasurably to the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state and local government; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong resident of Norco, Ralph Miller embodied the best qualities of a public servant; he held a genuine interest in the people he served and felt a personal responsibility to represent all of his constituency with honesty and integrity; and

WHEREAS, born on April 27, 1934, to parents, Homer F. Miller and Emma Cambre Miller; he graduated from Destrehan High School, from Louisiana State University with a bachelor of science degree, and from the LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center with a juris doctor degree; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Miller was a veteran who proudly served his country in the United States Army on two separate occasions and was honorably discharged both times; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure in the House, Ralph Miller was chairman of both the House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice and the House Committee on Municipal, Parochial, and Cultural Affairs; and

WHEREAS, his other legislative assignments included the House committees on Commerce, Judiciary, Civil Law and Procedure, Transportation, the Legislative Services Council, the Committee on Enrollment, and the Council of the Louisiana Law Institute; as a legislator, he was diligent, trustworthy, consistent in his views, and the voice of moderation who instinctively sought consensus among differing factions; and

WHEREAS, through his extraordinary talents of diplomacy and compromise, he brought to fruition important legislation that included flood protection, tourism, and preservation of the state's wilderness and ecological beauty; and

WHEREAS, his advocacy brought about preservation of the Labranche wetlands and the placement of Bayou Labranche and Bayou Trepagnier under the protection of the Louisiana Natural and Scenic Rivers system; and

WHEREAS, throughout his time as a legislator and lobbyist, his political philosophy embraced compromise, those give and take processes of representative democracy; he provided invaluable leadership to the legislative process and it was made better by his active participation; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Miller served on many boards and commissions including Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association, the Public Affairs Research Council, the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, the Bureau of Governmental Research, the World Trade Center, the Council for a Better Louisiana, and the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI); and

WHEREAS, Ralph was an exceptional individual, who received copious acknowledgments and awards during his lifetime, far too numerous to count; and

WHEREAS, in his private career, Ralph Miller acted as vice president of State Governmental Relations for Freeport-McMoRan, Inc. and held a similar position with Crescent Technology, Inc.; and

WHEREAS, he had a deep devotion to the land, people, and history of St. Charles Parish; he founded the River Road Historical Society and made vast contributions to restore Destrehan Plantation to its former glory; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Miller is survived by his loving wife, Sue Cutrer Miller; two sons, Ross and Greg; two daughters, Maria and Maureen; four grandchildren, four great grandchildren, extended family, and many fond friends; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Miller embodied *joie de vivre*, that delight in being alive; he filled a room with his presence; he embraced the elan of everything and everyone around him; he had a generous heart and giving nature; he was known for his kindness and humor; he was blessed with an abundance of determination and skill; he performed his public service proudly and willingly; he extended courtesy to all; and he leaves a rich and unique legacy of public service to his family, community, state, and nation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences upon the passing of the Honorable Ralph R. Miller, lobbyist, attorney, civic leader, and former member of the Louisiana House of Representatives and does hereby celebrate a life well lived in service to the betterment of this state.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences to our friend and colleague, the Honorable Greg Miller of the Louisiana House of Representatives on the loss of his father.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his widow, Sue Cutrer Miller.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES