SLS 171ES-28 ORIGINAL

2017 First Extraordinary Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

BY SENATOR PEACOCK

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences on the passing of Shreveport businessman, William "Billy" Thomas Hanna Jr.

1	A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION
2	To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the
3	passing of businessman and former mayor of Shreveport, Louisiana, the Honorable
4	William "Billy" Thomas Hanna Jr.
5	WHEREAS, it is with great remorse that the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of
6	the death of William T. Hanna Jr. on December 17, 2016, at the age of eighty-six; and
7	WHEREAS, Billy Hanna was a true southern gentleman, a vibrant man of many
8	talents, an exceptional businessman, and an outstanding public servant who envisioned lofty
9	economic advancements for the city of Shreveport and region of Northwest Louisiana that
10	came to fruition during his lifetime; and
11	WHEREAS, Billy Hanna was a gracious servant of the community who expressed
12	gratitude for his good fortune by his participation in all manner of civic issues and social
13	activities; and
14	WHEREAS, born in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 26, 1930, to parents
15	William Thomas Hanna Sr. and Irma Belle Adams; his family moved to Shreveport when
16	Billy was an infant and he grew into the All-American boy; he excelled in sports and
17	academics; and
18	WHEREAS, as a stellar athlete at C. E. Byrd High School, he was an outstanding

1	atmete in football, basketball, baseball, and softball, after graduation, he played collegiate
2	baseball for four years at Louisiana State University; a three-year letterman from 1949
3	through 1951, he scored the most runs and made the most hits of the season during his senior
4	year; and
5	WHEREAS, he considered a career in professional baseball and played the position
6	of shortstop in the minor leagues, however, that dream was interrupted by a call to military
7	duty in the United States Air Force during the Korean Conflict; and
8	WHEREAS, Billy Hanna began his business career in automobile sales in 1953 when
9	he returned home from military service to join his father at the family dealership of
10	Andress-Hanna Lincoln-Mercury, later to evolve into Bill Hanna Ford; and
11	WHEREAS, his astute business acumen garnered recognition from his peers and
12	inclusion in many prestigious, professional associations, such as, the Shreveport-Bossier
13	New Car Dealers Association, Louisiana Automobile Dealers Association, the Sales and
14	Marketing Association, and National Ford Dealer Council; and
15	WHEREAS, many public and nonprofit agencies benefitted from his guidance and
16	leadership that included the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, the Better Business Bureau,
17	Holiday in Dixie, the Ambassadors Club, the Shreveport Country Club, the Committee of
18	100-Shreveport, the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation, the LSU Board of
19	Supervisors, the LSU Alumni Association, and the LSU Tiger Athletic Foundation; and
20	WHEREAS, Billy Hanna was rewarded by the automobile industry with receipt of
21	numerous accolades that included Time Magazine Quality Dealer Award and Louisiana
22	Automobile Dealer of the Year; and
23	WHEREAS, Billy maintained his avid interest in athletics and the sports industry and
24	was essential in the formation of the University Club, the Shreveport Captains Baseball
25	Team, and the Shreveport Steamers franchise of the World Football League; and
26	WHEREAS, in 1977, Billy Hanna considered contributing more to the community
27	and ran a successful campaign for the office of mayor with the motto, "The Citizen Mayor -
28	The Choice for Change"; and
29	WHEREAS, during his single term from 1978 to 1982, an escalation of economic
30	development projects brought about the construction of the Expo Hall, continued I-49

1	highway expansion to North Louisiana, and a General Motors facility; and
2	WHEREAS, in 1994, Bill Hanna joined parish government and served as its director
3	of buildings and grounds, and later as director of operations and assistant administrator; and
4	WHEREAS, he continued to further his public service in local government with the
5	appointment as administrator and Chief Executive Officer of Caddo Parish and remained in
6	that position until his retirement in 2006; and
7	WHEREAS, during his service as parish administrator, he was responsible for the
8	successful settlement of the boundary dispute between Caddo and Bossier parishes, which
9	affected revenue collections from riverboat gaming; and
10	WHEREAS, he also consolidated major governmental headquarters at Government
11	Plaza, established an emergency cell phone program for the elderly and handicapped, and
12	assisted in establishment of the Northwest Louisiana Veterans Cemetery; and
13	WHEREAS, Billy Hanna is survived by his wife, Marvelle, their four daughters,
14	Stephanie Chaffee, Shelley Prothro, Dorothy Kristin Hanna, and Cynthia Morgan Hanna;
15	two stepsons, Jeff and Greg Deyo; grandchildren, extended family, and many close friends;
16	and
17	WHEREAS, for eight decades, Billy Hanna left an indelible mark on Caddo Parish
18	and whether the economic times were "boom or bust," he readily performed his civic duty
19	whenever and wherever possible; and
20	WHEREAS, Billy was a generous man who possessed an abundance of interests and
21	skills; and
22	WHEREAS, Billy Hanna wore the mantle of public service proudly and willingly
23	while extending courtesy to all.
24	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
25	express its sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the passing of the Honorable William
26	"Billy" Thomas Hanna Jr., businessman, public servant, and former mayor of Shreveport,
27	Louisiana.
28	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
29	acknowledge a lifetime of tremendous contributions that William Thomas Hanna Jr. made
30	to his community, state, and nation.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his

widow, Mrs. Marvelle W. Hanna.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Susan P. Montague.

DIGEST

SCR 9 Original 2017 First Extraordinary Session

Peacock

Expresses condolences upon the death of Shreveport businessman and former mayor, the Honorable William "Billy" Hanna.