

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 102

BY SENATOR BROOME

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of long-time Baton Rouge community leader, Irwin Richard "Dick" Schneider.

WHEREAS, a professional engineer and loving family man dedicated to bettering his community, Dick Schneider died on April 10, 2015, at the age of ninety-three; and

WHEREAS, Dick Schneider was born to immigrant parents in 1921 in Newark, New Jersey, the oldest of three Schneider children; and

WHEREAS, Dick was a graduate of the Newark College of Engineering at the New Jersey Institute of Technology; and

WHEREAS, after graduation, Dick joined the United States Navy and served as an officer in the Pacific Fleet in both World War II and the Korean Conflict; and

WHEREAS, after his service in World War II, Dick returned to school and earned a Masters Degree in Industrial Engineering at Columbia University in New York City in 1947; and

WHEREAS, following completion of his academic training, Dick moved to Baton Rouge to work for Ethyl Corporation and in Baton Rouge he met Patricia "Pat" Bymaster and the two were married in 1951; and

WHEREAS, Dick and Pat raised three children in Baton Rouge: Jeffrey, Day, and Charles "Chip"; Dick enjoyed time with his children and, eventually, his grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, in the 1950s Dick began a long and active civic career, including volunteer stints as the president of the Baton Rouge Symphony, chairman of the precursor to the United Way (United Givers), and serving as the president of the Istrouma Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America; and

WHEREAS, Schneider was active in scouting on the local, regional, and national level as he was a regular summer instructor at the Philmont Training Center in Cimarron, New Mexico, and he played a major role in the development of Boy Scout Camp Avondale in Clinton, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, Dick Schneider was devoted to the cause of adult literacy and was

active in the beginnings of Operation Upgrade, a literacy program that remains active in Baton Rouge today as a literacy and tutoring program; and

WHEREAS, Dick was a member of the B'nai Israel Congregation, where he was active in the Sunday School program and in the administration of the congregation; and

WHEREAS, after a successful career, Dick retired from Ethyl and turned his considerable talents and energy to the betterment of his community; and

WHEREAS, Dick became involved in the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI) and served as leader of the Louisiana Political Action Committee or LPAC, the lobbying arm of LABI; and

WHEREAS, as the leader of LPAC, Dick was a fixture at the Capitol during legislative sessions and he led the group to champion progressive legislation designed to create a more productive business and labor environment in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, with a seemingly endless amount of energy and commitment, Dick retired from LABI and turned his intelligence and skills to fundraising for the School for the Coast and the Environment at Louisiana State University, where he remained active for several years; and

WHEREAS, Dick was able to give time and attention to his work, his wife and children, and to his community as a whole, serving as an example of citizen involvement in a free society to all who knew him; and

WHEREAS, Dick Schneider was an active member of the Baton Rouge community, giving tirelessly of his time and talents in efforts to make Baton Rouge and all of Louisiana a better place to live, work, and raise families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express its sincere condolences upon the death of long-time Baton Rouge community leader, Irwin Richard "Dick" Schneider.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the children of Dick Schneider.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE