

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 5

BY SENATORS ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LUNEAU, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PEACOCK, PETERSON, GARY SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana to Her Royal Highness Queen Margrethe II, the Danish Royal Family, and the people of Denmark upon the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Henrik.

WHEREAS, Prince Henrik, husband to Her Royal Highness, possessed a warm and generous spirit and was treasured by those whose lives he touched; and

WHEREAS, of French descent, Henri Marie Jean André de Laborde de Monpezat was in the diplomatic service stationed in London at the French Foreign Ministry; and

WHEREAS, in the early 1960s, Henri was smitten by Princess Margrethe who was attending the London School of Economics; and

WHEREAS, after their marriage in 1967, Henri changed his name to the Danish version, Henrik, and adopted Denmark as his mother country; and

WHEREAS, Prince Henrik defined his role in Denmark's constitutional monarchy, first and foremost, as supporter and counselor to the Queen; and

WHEREAS, Prince Henrik possessed many talents and interests during his lifetime; he was an aviator during the Algerian War; he was a poet with numerous published works to his credit; he was an exceptional wine vintner on his French country estate, and he was a classically-trained pianist; and

WHEREAS, surrounded by his wife and sons, Prince Henrik passed peacefully from this life on February 13, 2018; and

WHEREAS, he is survived by Queen Margrethe, their two sons, and extended family that includes Crown Prince Frederik and his wife, Crown Princess Mary, and their four children, Prince Christian, Princess Isabella, Prince Vincent, and Princess Josephine; and Prince Joachim and his wife, Princess Marie, and their children, Prince Nikolai, Prince Felix, Prince Henrik, and Princess Athena; and

WHEREAS, forever the poet, his sentiments for his wife rang true after one-half century together; in 1967, during his wedding speech, Prince Henrik vowed, "I came from a country of flowers into a blossoming garden of lilac, golden rain, elderflower, peonies, and flowers in parks, fields, and forests; but Margrethe, however, was the garden's single most beautiful adornment"; and

WHEREAS, after fifty years of matrimony Prince Henrik paid one last tribute to Her Majesty Queen Margrethe and directed that bouquets of flowers and wreaths at his funeral were to be arranged in a "garden setting" as one last gesture of his love and devotion; and

WHEREAS, the passing of His Royal Highness Prince Henrik leaves a deep void in the hearts of the Danish people; however, Denmark holds a steadfast place in world affairs as a peaceful and proactive nation, in part, by the positive contributions made on its behalf by Prince Henrik.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences to Her Royal Highness Queen Margrethe II and the members of the Danish Royal Family upon the death of His Royal Highness Prince Henrik, beloved husband and father.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to John F. Fay Jr., Consul to the Royal Danish Consulate, New Orleans, Louisiana.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE