

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY SENATORS HEITMEIER, ADLEY, ALARIO, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, CHABERT, CHAISSON, CHEEK, CLAITOR, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY, DUPLESSIS, ERDEY, B. GAUTREAUX, N. GAUTREAUX, GUILLORY, HEBERT, JACKSON, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARIONNEAUX, MARTINY, MCPHERSON, MICHOT, MORRELL, MORRISH, MOUNT, MURRAY, NEVERS, PETERSON, QUINN, RISER, SHAW, SMITH, THOMPSON AND WALSWORTH

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the tragic deaths of those aboard the Transocean Deepwater Horizon, a semi-submersible drilling platform, in the Gulf of Mexico.

WHEREAS, it is with heavy hearts that the Senate, along with the citizens of Louisiana and the nation, mourns the loss of life from the terrible tragedy that occurred on the evening of April 20, 2010, when an explosion onboard the oil rig, Deepwater Horizon, took the lives of eleven crew members; and

WHEREAS, some of the fallen were from communities both large and small that dot the Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, condolences are extended to the family members who have lost fathers, brothers, and sons; and

WHEREAS, it is the worst oil rig disaster in nearly a decade; a similar loss of life last occurred in 2001, off the coast of Brazil; and

WHEREAS, petroleum exploration has been the life's blood of the state's economy for over one hundred twenty years, and in 1947, Kerr-McGee Corporation began the first successful offshore fixed platform exploration off the coast of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, for sixty plus years, oil exploration has been a perilous venture, fraught with risk, attracting only the most strong-willed and able-bodied among us; and

WHEREAS, some of Louisiana's finest and hardiest men and women have answered the call to work atop those floating cities made of steel dancing on the waves of a near limitless ocean; and

WHEREAS, it is a daring and courageous person who undertakes such a career; and

WHEREAS, there were a number of stories of heroism and bravery during those harrowing last moments on the Deepwater Horizon before one hundred fifteen survivors were evacuated in lifeboats; and

WHEREAS, among the departed to be remembered are Wyatt Kemp of Jonesville, Louisiana, Karl Kleppinger of Natchez, Mississippi, and Shane Roshto of Amite County, Mississippi, and eight others of the fated crew; and

WHEREAS, words of solace are extended to family members bereaved by the loss of loved ones; with hope that empathy and understanding soothes many troubled hearts with affirmations of everlasting grace.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby extend its condolences, along with those of the state and the nation, to the families of the deceased oil rig personnel who perished aboard the Deepwater Horizon platform, April 20, 2010.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that condolences are extended to the survivors for their losses of co-workers and friends.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE