

Second Extraordinary Session, 2008

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

BY REPRESENTATIVES RITCHIE, ABRAMSON, ANDERS, ARMES, ARNOLD, AUBERT, AUSTIN BADON, BOBBY BADON, BALDONE, BARRAS, BARROW, BILLIOT, BURFORD, HENRY BURNS, TIM BURNS, BURRELL, CARMODY, CARTER, CAZAYOUX, CHAMPAGNE, CHANDLER, CHANEY, CONNICK, CORTEZ, CROMER, DANAHAY, DIXON, DOERGE, DOVE, DOWNS, EDWARDS, ELLINGTON, FANNIN, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GALLOT, GEYMANN, GISCLAIR, GREENE, ELBERT GUILLORY, MICKEY GUILLORY, GUINN, HARDY, HARRISON, HAZEL, HENDERSON, HENRY, HILL, HINES, HOFFMANN, HONEY, HOWARD, HUTTER, GIROD JACKSON, MICHAEL JACKSON, JOHNSON, ROSALIND JONES, SAM JONES, KATZ, KLECKLEY, LABRUZZO, LAFONTA, LAMBERT, LEBAS, LEGER, LIGI, LITTLE, LOPINTO, LORUSSO, MARCHAND, MCVEA, MILLS, MONICA, MONTOUCET, MORRELL, MORRIS, NORTON, NOWLIN, PEARSON, PERRY, PETERSON, PONTI, POPE, PUGH, RICHARD, RICHARDSON, RICHMOND, ROBIDEAUX, ROY, SCHRODER, SIMON, SMILEY, GARY SMITH, JANE SMITH, PATRICIA SMITH, ST. GERMAIN, TALBOT, TEMPLET, TRAHAN, TUCKER, WADDELL, WHITE, WILLIAMS, WILLMOTT, AND WOOTON

A RESOLUTION

To express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of former state legislator Benjamin B. "Sixty" Rayburn of Bogalusa.

WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the Louisiana House of Representatives have learned of the death of their friend and former colleague, Benjamin B. "Sixty" Rayburn, on March 5, 2008, at the age of ninety-one; and

WHEREAS, a farmer, cattleman, and lover of the great outdoors, Mr. Rayburn attended Sumrall High School in Mississippi and Sullivan Memorial Trade School and received an honorary doctor of philosophy degree from Loyola University; and

WHEREAS, in 1944, Mr. Rayburn began his long and highly productive career in elected public service upon his election to the Washington Parish Police Jury at the age of twenty-eight; and

WHEREAS, in 1948, Mr. Rayburn was elected to the Louisiana House of Representatives, where he served until 1951, when he was elected to the Louisiana Senate, in which he served with great distinction until 1996; and

WHEREAS, Sixty Rayburn, who served under seven different governors, used every opportunity as an able and productive legislator to serve his constituency and the citizens of the state of Louisiana in an honorable and dedicated manner, representing parts of St. Tammany, St. Helena, and Tangipahoa parishes and all of Washington Parish; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rayburn steadfastly endeavored to improve the welfare of the citizens of Louisiana, served with excellence as the longtime chairman of the Senate Committee on Finance and the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, and was a delegate during the Constitutional Convention of 1973, playing a significant role in this historic achievement in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, affectionately known as the "Dean of the Legislature", Mr. Rayburn's legislative accomplishments were numerous and included his championing of the building of the Washington Correctional Institute, which was renamed the B.B. "Sixty" Rayburn Correctional Center in his honor in 2006; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, Mr. Rayburn was deservedly inducted into the Louisiana Political Hall of Fame as one of its first twelve inductees, and he also served as president of the Louisiana Thoroughbred Breeders Association from 1966 to 1998; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rayburn was preceded in death by his wife, Hazel, and is survived by his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rayburn will forever be respected and remembered by his fellow citizens for his singular contributions as a state legislator and for his steadfast commitment to his family, friends, community, and state.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of former state legislator Benjamin B. "Sixty" Rayburn of Bogalusa, does hereby recognize that his death has left a great void and created a genuine sense of sorrow in the many citizens whose lives he touched, including the members of the legislative family, all of whom mourn the loss of this wonderful man who served his state and the legislative institution so long and so well, and does hereby record for posterity the enduring appreciation of the citizens of Louisiana for his outstanding contributions and achievements, particularly during his forty-eight-year tenure as a distinguished member of the Legislature of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Benjamin B. "Sixty" Rayburn.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES