



1 athlete 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.

1           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to his  
2 widow, Mrs. Marvelle W. Hanna.

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

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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.