

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 32

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEOPOLD, ABRAHAM, ABRAMSON, AMEDEE, ANDERS, ARMES, BACALA, BAGLEY, BAGNERIS, BARRAS, BERTHELOT, BILLIOT, BISHOP, BOUIE, BROADWATER, CHAD BROWN, TERRY BROWN, CARMODY, CARPENTER, GARY CARTER, ROBBY CARTER, STEVE CARTER, CHANEY, CONNICK, COUSSAN, COX, CROMER, DANAHAY, DAVIS, DEVILLIER, DWIGHT, EDMONDS, EMERSON, FALCONER, FOIL, FRANKLIN, GAINES, GAROFALO, GISCLAIR, GLOVER, GUINN, HALL, JIMMY HARRIS, LANCE HARRIS, HAVARD, HAZEL, HENRY, HENSGENS, HILFERTY, HILL, HODGES, HOFFMANN, HOLLIS, HORTON, HOWARD, HUNTER, HUVAL, IVEY, JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, JENKINS, JOHNSON, JONES, JORDAN, NANCY LANDRY, TERRY LANDRY, LEBAS, LEGER, LYONS, MACK, MAGEE, MARCELLE, MARINO, MCFARLAND, MIGUEZ, DUSTIN MILLER, GREGORY MILLER, MORENO, JAY MORRIS, JIM MORRIS, NORTON, PEARSON, PIERRE, POPE, PRICE, PUGH, PYLANT, REYNOLDS, RICHARD, SCHEXNAYDER, SCHRODER, SEABAUGH, SHADOIN, SIMON, SMITH, STAGNI, STEFANSKI, STOKES, TALBOT, THIBAUT, THOMAS, WHITE, AND ZERINGUE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Herman Bernard "Barney" Schoenberger of Plaquemines Parish.

WHEREAS, the members of the Louisiana House of Representatives and Senate were saddened to learn of the death on December 1, 2016, of Herman Bernard "Barney" Schoenberger; he was ninety years old; and

WHEREAS, Barney Schoenberger was a Renaissance man; he graduated from Buras High School in 1942, enrolled at Tulane University, and earned a law degree from Tulane Law School at the age of twenty; this remarkable man was the youngest law graduate from Tulane at the time, but he had to wait a year to meet the minimum age requirement to be admitted to the Louisiana Bar, in 1947; he opened a law firm in Buras; and

WHEREAS, in 1959, Mr. Schoenberger was elected as a state representative from Plaquemines Parish; he served in the Louisiana House of Representatives until 1967, when he was elected as the parish assessor; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, Barney Schoenberger was elected sheriff of Plaquemines Parish; he served fifteen years and was unopposed in his last two elections; he served on the legislative committee and board of directors of the Louisiana Sheriff's Association; and

WHEREAS, his strong civic ties and hometown pride kept Barney Schoenberger active in his community; he served as Plaquemines Parish administrator and legislative consultant, was an organizer for the Plaquemines Parish Fair and Orange Festival in 1946, prepared the event's first charter in 1947, and served on the board of directors and as secretary-general manager of the fair and festival; he was crowned Orange King in 1961; Barney's family was one of the largest citrus growers in the parish and owned the Honey Brand label; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Schoenberger was a board member of Delta Bank and Trust Company; he was a member and served as secretary and vice president of the 25th Judicial District Bar Association, was a charter member of the Buras Fire Department, and served as president and secretary of the Plaquemines Parish Baseball League; Barney Schoenberger was a fourth degree member of the Knights of Columbus; he served as president of the Holy Name Society and the Plaquemines Lions Club; and he was a member of the Elks Club, the Empire Citizens Organization, the Public Affairs Research Council, the Chamber of Commerce, the Peace Officers Association, and the National Sheriff's Association; and

WHEREAS, a unique characteristic of "Mr. Barney", as he was affectionately called by those who worked with him, was his ability to recite from memory the charter of Plaquemines Parish and provisions in the state constitution related to his beloved parish; and

WHEREAS, except for his years as sheriff, Barney Schoenberger practiced law; he was known for his integrity and often was referred to as "Mr. Clean"; and

WHEREAS, a passion of Barney Schoenberger was oration; he enjoyed speaking at Lions Clubs meetings, fire departments, graduations, and political gatherings; and

WHEREAS, Barney was a parishioner of Our Lady of Good Harbor Catholic Church in Buras; he attended St. Ann Catholic Church in Empire in his later years; and

WHEREAS, the absence of Herman Bernard Schoenberger will be most deeply felt by his wife of sixty-nine years, Jo Ann Brandon; his daughter, Bonnie Jo Thomas, and her husband Robert; and his grandson, Robert S. "Schoeny" Thomas, and his fiancée Brittain Brown; yet, memories of good times shared with him will remain; and

WHEREAS, Barney Schoenberger was an extraordinary public servant who never refused to help anyone; his life was devoted to the people of Plaquemines Parish, and his

dignified, statesman-like bearing are etched forever into the minds and hearts of all who knew and loved him, and with his passing, Louisiana has lost one of her finest sons.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Herman Bernard "Barney" Schoenberger; does hereby record for posterity his exemplary life of public service; and does hereby extend best hopes and prayers for peace and comfort to all who mourn his passing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Barney Schoenberger.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE