

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 280

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of Dr. Christopher John Rich, M.B.A.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of
3 Dr. Christopher John Rich, M.B.A.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the
5 Louisiana House of Representatives have learned of the death of Dr. Christopher John Rich,
6 on January 19, 2019, at the age of sixty-two; and

7 WHEREAS, Dr. Chris Rich was born to Ralph and Jean Gillis Rich on February 29,
8 1956; a native of San Antonio, Dr. Rich was a three-year varsity football player as an
9 offensive lineman at Louisiana State University (LSU) and earned Academic
10 All-Southeastern Conference honors; and

11 WHEREAS, after graduating from LSU, Dr. Rich earned his doctor of medicine
12 degree from the LSU School of Medicine in New Orleans, and thereafter, completed his
13 orthopaedic surgery residency at LSU; years later, Dr. Rich returned to school and earned
14 a master's degree in business administration at the University of Tennessee; and

15 WHEREAS, from 1988 to 2011, Dr. Rich was managing partner of Mid-State
16 Orthopaedic & Sports Medicine Center in Alexandria, Louisiana, retiring from clinical
17 practice in 2010; during his tenure as managing partner, Mid-State received the honor of
18 No. 1 in orthopaedics for the state of Louisiana in 2004 and 2007 by HEALTHGRADES;
19 and

1 WHEREAS, as an integral part of the Northwestern State University (NSU) sports
2 medicine program, Dr. Chris Rich served as the director of sports medicine and head team
3 physician for the Northwestern State Demons from 1990 to 2010; and

4 WHEREAS, he served in a voluntary consulting role with the NSU team physicians,
5 sports medicine staff, and athletic administration in monitoring and addressing various
6 medical and health-related issues that have become prominent in intercollegiate athletics;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Dr. Rich also played a role in promoting best practices and
9 evidence-based medicine, as well as stewardship of financial resources related to medical
10 care for the NSU Athletic Department; and

11 WHEREAS, revered by his peers, Dr. Rich was honored many times over; he
12 received the Distinguished Service Award at NSU; in 2005, he was inducted into the
13 Louisiana Athletic Trainers Hall of Fame; in 2013, Dr. Rich received the Outstanding
14 Leadership Award from the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association; the association later
15 awarded him with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his service with the organization; and

16 WHEREAS, Mid-State Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine renamed the annual
17 physical day for health screenings for local high school athletes "Chris Rich High School
18 Physical Day"; and

19 WHEREAS, Dr. Rich served on the University Academic Medical Board with
20 oversight of business operations and management of the new \$1.6 billion LSU Medical
21 Center in New Orleans and served as the medical director for the Louisiana Office of
22 Worker's Compensation Administration from 2011 to 2015; and

23 WHEREAS, Dr. Rich was a fellow of the American Academy of Orthopaedic
24 Surgeons, past president of the Louisiana Orthopaedic Association, a member of the
25 American Orthopaedic Society of Sports Medicine, and a charter member of the Louisiana
26 Sports Medicine Society; and

27 WHEREAS, Dr. Chris Rich served his community proudly and was a member of
28 Calvary Baptist Church where he and his wife, Vickie, were active and strove to live their
29 lives walking in Christian faith; and

1 WHEREAS, he was an entrepreneur and a philanthropist, helping to raise funds for
2 local charities and nonprofit organizations that touched countless lives; and

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Chris Rich was active in the community socially and politically, and
4 he and Vickie particularly loved to host parties and enjoyed the pleasure of countless friends;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, a favorite pastime of Dr. Chris Rich's, when not working, entertaining,
7 or spending time with his family, was traveling to various locations with Vickie to explore
8 a city or country's culture and history; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Christopher Rich, M.B.A., is survived by his loving wife of
10 thirty-five years, Vickie; children, Jeffrey Rich, and his wife Kim, Margaret Rich, and her
11 fiancé Will, and Stacie Keller, and her husband David; grandchildren, Jack, Jesse, Sadie, and
12 Wade; and brother, Tony Rich, and his wife Fran; and

13 WHEREAS, Dr. Chris Rich was a distinguished member of his community, someone
14 committed to leaving the world around him a better place, and his legacy is one of being
15 dedicated to all endeavors in life, to faith in his church, and to love of family.

16 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
17 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences upon the death of
18 Dr. Christopher John Rich, M.B.A.; does hereby record for posterity his manifold
19 contributions to the medical field and to his community; and does hereby express the deep
20 regret of the entire state upon the loss of this wonderful man.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
22 family of Dr. Christopher John Rich.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 280 Original

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