

2022 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 30

BY REPRESENTATIVES FONTENOT, AMEDEE, AND MAGEE AND SENATOR FESI

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana on the death of Earl Joseph Thibodaux.

WHEREAS, Earl Joseph Thibodaux was born in Thibodaux, Louisiana, on February 1, 1955; he was the fourth of seven children born to the union of F.E. and Flo Thibodaux; and

WHEREAS, Earl possessed all of the qualities of a leader from an early age; his entrepreneurial drive motivated him to earn money by selling bicycle parts to his friends and pumping gas, stocking shelves, and delivering groceries at his family's grocery store; he was also a highly active and involved student at E.D. White High School, where he served on the student council and was among the starting offensive linemen on the varsity football team; and

WHEREAS, while in high school, Mr. Thibodaux met the love of his life, Ann Soignet, and proposed to her at their senior prom; they married on December 28, 1973, the anniversary of their first date; and

WHEREAS, the Thibodauxs relocated to Columbus, Georgia, after Earl enlisted in the United States Army; he served his country and was honorably discharged in 1976; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thibodaux returned to Louisiana after his service, and he earned a degree in business administration from Nicholls State University; he owned and operated a Montgomery Ward location before beginning a decades-long career in long-term healthcare; and

WHEREAS, shortly after Earl embarked on his new career, the Thibodauxs welcomed their daughter, Julie, into the world; Mr. Thibodaux lived to make his daughter

happy and always made sure to remind her that she was his pride and joy; he cherished bragging about her completing law school at Loyola University in New Orleans; and

WHEREAS, the majority of Mr. Thibodaux's career in long-term healthcare was spent with currently-named Pathway South, LLC; he began in 1985 and became president of operations in the early 2000s; he was known to treat colleagues as an extension of his family and was affectionately known as "Mr. T" or "Papa T"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thibodaux was a genuine friend and a dedicated member of the Thibodaux community; he regularly volunteered in both his community and the surrounding areas; his civic involvement included volunteering as an advisor to the E.D. White Key Club/Kiwanis organization, serving as a commentator at St. Joseph Cathedral, serving as a board member and retreat captain emeritus for Manresa House of Retreats, and serving as a member and chairman of the Louisiana Board of Examiners of Nursing Facility Administrators; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thibodaux loved spending time with family and friends, visiting Walt Disney World, fishing at Six Forks Camp in Port Gibson, and playing cards with his brothers; in 2015, he experienced "one of the highlights of his life" by being named the 63rd King of the Krewe of Christopher, an organization with which his family had long-standing involvement; and

WHEREAS, Earl Joseph Thibodaux is survived by his wife, Ann Soignet Thibodaux; daughter, Julie Thibodaux; Nicholas Poché, who is like an adopted son to the Thibodauxs; and his siblings, Gene Thibodaux, and his wife Janet, Brenda Arceneaux, and her husband Steve, Eustis Thibodaux, and his wife Claudette, Denise Boudreaux, and her husband Mark, Jimmy Thibodaux, and Suzette Pickering, and her husband Billy; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thibodaux leaves a truly beautiful legacy of unshakeable love and commitment to his wife, daughter, and siblings; he will be profoundly missed by his family and all those whose lives were improved by his generous spirit; he will be deeply missed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Earl Joseph Thibodaux; does hereby recognize Mr. Thibodaux for his unrelenting dedication to his hometown of Thibodaux and the entire state of Louisiana; and does hereby extend sincere hopes that his family, friends, and former colleagues find comfort in their many shared memories of his life.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Earl Joseph Thibodaux.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE