

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 232

BY REPRESENTATIVE ZERINGUE

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of Justin Reid Ehrenwerth and posthumously commends his contributions to Louisiana and the Gulf Coast

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Justin R.
3 Ehrenwerth and to posthumously commend his contributions to Louisiana and the
4 Gulf Coast.

5 WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of
6 Representatives has learned of the death of Justin Reid Ehrenwerth; and

7 WHEREAS, Justin Reid Ehrenwerth was born on September 5, 1978, in Pittsburgh,
8 Pennsylvania, and was one of two children born to David H. Ehrenwerth and Charlene
9 "Kandy" Reidbord Ehrenwerth; and

10 WHEREAS, Justin was a devoted and loving husband to his wife, Dana Dupré, and
11 father to sons, Louis and Charles; he was a loving older brother to his sister, Lindsey
12 Ehrenwerth Herman; and

13 WHEREAS, Justin graduated summa cum laude from Colby College, received
14 master's degrees in philosophy, politics, and economics from the University of Oxford, and
15 earned a juris doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania Law School; and

16 WHEREAS, early in his distinguished career, Justin worked in the nonprofit sector
17 at various organizations including the University of Pittsburgh Institute of Politics, Northern
18 California Grantmakers, the Pennsylvania League of Young Voters, and the American
19 Jewish Committee; he also served as a Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Teaching
20 Fellow and Coro Fellow in Public Affairs; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Ehrenwerth served in the Department of Commerce's office of
2 general counsel, where he assisted in the management of more than three hundred lawyers
3 in fourteen offices; while there, he received the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
4 Administration General Counsel's Award for Excellence for his work related to the response
5 to the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Ehrenwerth served as assistant counsel to President Barack Obama,
7 where he spearheaded the BP *Deepwater Horizon* litigation for the White House with the
8 Department of Justice; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Ehrenwerth was selected as the inaugural executive director of the
10 Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, which was charged with directing billions of
11 dollars to restore the Gulf Coast's economy and environment and adapt to the rising threat
12 of climate change; and

13 WHEREAS, Mr. Ehrenwerth's next role was as chief of staff to the U.S. Deputy
14 Secretary of Commerce, where he assisted in policy, budgeting, and strategic planning; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2017 Mr. Ehrenwerth was appointed to serve as the second president
16 and chief executive officer of The Water Institute of the Gulf, which is an independent,
17 nonprofit applied research institution that was established in 2011 to advance our knowledge
18 of the natural and human aspects of deltaic, coastal, and water management systems and
19 develop integrated methods to address environmental and societal challenges; and

20 WHEREAS, Mr. Ehrenwerth served as a member of both the board of directors of
21 Touro Synagogue and Louisiana's Committee of 100 for Economic Development; he also
22 served the Anti-Defamation League's South Central Region, where he sat as an active voice
23 on the Civil Rights Committee; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Ehrenwerth, who called Louisiana home since 2013, was a
25 nationally recognized expert in coastal policy and applied science; he worked tirelessly, in
26 both his personal and professional lives, to make a more resilient Gulf Coast and stronger
27 Louisiana; and

28 WHEREAS, Justin cherished walks with his sons along the levee, attending Jazz Fest
29 with his family, traveling, playing the harmonica, and watching his hometown Pittsburgh
30 Steelers; he leaves to cherish his memory his loving wife, children, father, and a host of

1 friends, colleagues, and communities he served through his passionate efforts to protect the
2 Gulf Coast; he will be deeply missed, but his legacy will live on in his inspiring life's work.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Justin R.
5 Ehrenwerth and posthumously commends him for his contributions to Louisiana and the
6 Gulf Coast and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that his family and friends find comfort
7 in their shared memory of his beautiful life.

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 232 Original

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Zeringue

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