

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 39

BY REPRESENTATIVE ILLG

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Volkert, Inc., on the one hundredth anniversary of its founding

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Volkert, Inc., on the one hundredth anniversary of its charter.

3 WHEREAS, Volkert was founded as a family-run engineering firm named Doullut
4 & Ewin in New Orleans, Louisiana, in 1925, and was chartered "to act as civil engineers in
5 all capacities"; the firm's corporate headquarters was established in 1946 in Mobile,
6 Alabama, and the company operated as Ewin Engineering throughout the 1950s; the firm
7 was purchased by David Volkert, an engineer and test pilot during World War II, in 1954
8 and renamed Volkert, Inc., in 1963; and

9 WHEREAS, Volkert has contributed to some of the most significant American
10 infrastructure projects of the twentieth century; the company was selected to develop the
11 bridges of the Mobile Bay Causeway and played an integral role in the execution of the
12 Mississippi River and Tributaries Project following the Great Mississippi Flood of 1927; it
13 expanded the Alabama State Docks during World War II and developed dry docks for
14 Liberty Ships to support the country's supply and logistics for the war effort; and

15 WHEREAS, the firm partnered with Waterman Steamship Company to expand the
16 Port of Mobile, and it played an integral role in the early development of the National
17 Interstate Highway System; after rebranding as Volkert, Inc., the company designed the
18 world's longest bridge over water, the Lake Pontchartrain Causeway in Louisiana, which
19 opened in 1969; and

20 WHEREAS, Volkert designed the I-10 Twin Span Bridge and the Mobile Bayway,
21 which opened in 1978; the firm designed Interstate 565, connecting the city of Huntsville,

1 Alabama, to the National Interstate Highway System upon its opening in 1991; the firm led
2 the development of the Cochrane Africatown Bridge in Mobile, Alabama, which opened in
3 1992 and is the only cable-stay bridge in the state; and

4 WHEREAS, Volkert has contributed to a number of restoration projects, such as
5 working to preserve the USS Alabama and the USS Drum and designing the restoration of
6 Alabama's coast at Bayou La Batre following Hurricane Katrina; the firm designed the
7 interchange of Interstate 22 and Interstate 65 and the renewal of Interstate 59 and
8 Interstate 20 in Birmingham, which are two of the largest transportation projects in the
9 history of the state; and

10 WHEREAS, Volkert has been inducted into the Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame
11 along with three of its leaders and eight of its projects; and

12 WHEREAS, Volkert is made up of more than one thousand five hundred employees
13 who are located in sixty offices across twenty-five states; the firm established an employee
14 stock ownership plan, making it 100% employee-owned; and

15 WHEREAS, Volkert, Inc., celebrated the one-hundredth anniversary of its founding
16 on February 4, 2025, and its employee-owners are most deserving of the highest recognition
17 for this momentous achievement.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Volkert, Inc., on the one hundredth
20 anniversary of its founding; does hereby recognize Volkert, Inc., as a pivotal force in the
21 history of American civil engineering; and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that the firm
22 and its employee-owners continue to prosper in all of their endeavors for many more years
23 to come.

DIGEST

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