

2020 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 63

BY REPRESENTATIVE ILLG

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of Firmin Edward Simms

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Firmin  
3 Edward Simms.

4 WHEREAS, Firmin Edward Simms was born in New Orleans on December 30,  
5 1928, to Frank and Della Simms; and

6 WHEREAS, Firmin's love of sports developed early in his life; he also found  
7 inspiration in the Catholic education he received at Holy Cross High School, from which he  
8 graduated in 1946; and

9 WHEREAS, at the age of seventeen, Firmin began coaching and discovered how  
10 sports could help kids learn valuable life lessons; he made sure that all of his teams  
11 understood that God came first, teammates second, and self last; and

12 WHEREAS, Firmin was a member of the Louisiana National Guard and worked as  
13 a foreman for Bell South for thirty-seven years; he was also a coach and supervisor for the  
14 New Orleans Recreation Department for many years; and

15 WHEREAS, during his youth sports coaching career, Firmin received numerous  
16 awards; he was the recipient of the Louisiana Association of Basketball Coaches' "Mr.  
17 Louisiana Basketball" award in 2007; he was also a highly decorated Babe Ruth Baseball  
18 League coach for forty-six years, coaching with the New Orleans Recreation Department and  
19 the Jefferson Parish Recreation Department Westbank and securing five championships; he  
20 also served as the national director of Biddy Basketball for the last twenty-four years; and

1 WHEREAS, Firmin loved trips to the Holy Land and to Hawaii; he also enjoyed  
2 taking family trips to Disneyworld and Busch Gardens and going to watch the Yankees play  
3 with his son; and

4 WHEREAS, Firmin is survived by his wife, Jacklyn Brooks Simms; his daughters,  
5 Carolyn Simms Block, and her husband Doug, Mary Elizabeth Simms Hecker, and her  
6 husband John, Laurie Simms Wahlder, and her husband Tommy, and Sandra Simms Roach  
7 Nuss, and her husband Mark; his son Gerard John Simms, and his wife Ann; his step-  
8 daughters, Judy Brooks Nodurft, and her husband Danny, and Jody Brooks; his step-sons,  
9 Jay Brooks, and his wife Vicki, and Jeff Brooks, and his wife Lisa; fifteen grandchildren;  
10 nine step-granchildren; eight great-grandchildren; eight step-great-grandchildren; and a host  
11 of other relatives; and

12 WHEREAS, Firmin Edward Simms was truly a man of God who placed others  
13 before himself, and his passion for teaching spiritual virtues to young people has sealed his  
14 legacy on earth; he will be deeply missed but never forgotten.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
16 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Firmin  
17 Edward Simms; does hereby offer appreciation for Firmin's continuous efforts to help the  
18 youth in the New Orleans area through his love of God and sports; and does hereby extend  
19 sincere hopes and wishes that his family find comfort during this difficult time.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
21 family of Firmin Edward Simms.

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#### 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)]

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HR 63 Original

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