

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 44

BY REPRESENTATIVE GAROFALO

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of William Thomas "Bill" Bergeron

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of William
3 Thomas "Bill" Bergeron.

4 WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and regret that the House of Representatives
5 has learned of the death, on February 2, 2021, of William Thomas "Bill" Bergeron; and

6 WHEREAS, William Thomas Bergeron was born on August 12, 1947, to Roland
7 Joseph Bergeron, Jr., and Helen Pitts Torres Bergeron in St. Bernard, Louisiana; he was a
8 graduate of St. Bernard High School; and

9 WHEREAS, after high school, Bill worked at his father's company, Bergeron
10 Machine Shop, Inc.; at twenty-three years old, he successfully negotiated a bid to build New
11 Orleans's iconic Steamboat Natchez; this project created nearly one hundred new jobs and
12 opened the door for the construction of both a new fabrication yard in Plaquemines Parish
13 and a dry dock along the Mississippi River; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Bergeron and his brothers helped grow their small machine and
15 fabrication shop into an international marine services and manufacturing operation known
16 as Bergeron Industries, Inc.; among many other accomplishments, the company secured the
17 largest reported inland river barge contract in United States maritime history; and

18 WHEREAS, Mr. Bergeron was also an active member of the maritime and civic
19 communities; he served as chairman of the board of commissioners of the Port of New
20 Orleans, and most recently he served as president of the board of commissioners of
21 St. Bernard Port, Harbor, and Terminal District; he was also involved in numerous

1 associations, including the New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, the New Orleans Board of
2 Trade, and The World Trade Center; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Bergeron received numerous awards for his many contributions to
4 the Louisiana maritime industry, including the C. Alvin Bertel Award, the Governor's
5 Lantern Award from Governor Dave Treen, and special recognition from former Alabama
6 governor, Fob James, for overseeing the construction of the most modern barge-building
7 plant in the United States; and

8 WHEREAS, Mr. Bergeron was a parishioner of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
9 Catholic Church in New Orleans and served on the church's pastoral council; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Bergeron will be best remembered for his contributions to the
11 maritime industry and for his infectious personality; he was a humble man who displayed
12 an unwavering commitment to his family and friends; and

13 WHEREAS, William Thomas "Bill" Bergeron leaves to cherish his memory his
14 beloved wife, Mary "Joyce" Holcombe Bergeron; his daughter, Tiffany Bergeron Cook, and
15 her husband Brian; his grandchildren, William "Wil" Scott Cook and Emily Taylor Cook;
16 his brothers, Roland Joseph "Jady" Bergeron, III, and his wife Linda, and Todd Allen
17 Bergeron, and his wife Cheryl; and numerous nieces, nephews, and other extended family
18 members and friends; he will be deeply missed, but his legacy will certainly not be forgotten.

19 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
20 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of William
21 Thomas "Bill" Bergeron; does hereby acknowledge Mr. Bergeron's incredible contributions
22 to the Louisiana maritime industry and the health of the Louisiana economy; and does
23 hereby extend sincere hopes and wishes that his family find comfort during this difficult
24 time.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
26 family of William Thomas Bergeron.

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 44 Original

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Garofalo

Expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of William T. "Bill" Bergeron.