

2026 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 30

BY SENATOR MORRIS

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of former district attorney, judge, and Louisiana State Senator Robert W. "Bob" Kostelka.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of  
3 Louisiana upon the death of the Honorable Robert W. "Bob" Kostelka, former  
4 district attorney, judge, and Louisiana state senator, and to commend his legacy of  
5 many years of dedicated public service.

6 WHEREAS, the Honorable Robert W. "Bob" Kostelka passed away peacefully on  
7 the morning of January 10, 2026, aged ninety-two, surrounded by love and leaving behind  
8 the legacy of a life well-lived; and

9 WHEREAS, Bob was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather,  
10 a respected jurist and public servant, and a man whose strength, integrity, and warmth left  
11 a lasting mark on all who knew him; and

12 WHEREAS, he was a gentleman of abundant grace and civic acumen who was  
13 guided throughout his life by a deep sense of duty, fairness, and commitment to doing what  
14 was right; and

15 WHEREAS, Bob was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, attended Centenary College,  
16 matriculated to Louisiana State University, and earned his Juris Doctor degree from the  
17 Louisiana State University School of Law in 1957; and

18 WHEREAS, he dedicated much of his life to public service, as the district attorney

1 and district court judge for the 4th Judicial District Court for Ouachita and Morehouse  
2 parishes, as a judge on the Louisiana 2nd Circuit Court of Appeal from 1998 to 2003, and  
3 ultimately as a Louisiana state senator from 2003 to 2016, possessing perhaps the most  
4 comprehensive legal background of any legislator; and

5 WHEREAS, utilizing his expertise and interests, Senator Kostelka garnered  
6 assignments to the Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs as chairman, the  
7 Committee on Judiciary C as chairman, the Committee on Judiciary A as vice chairman, and  
8 seats on the committees on Labor and Industrial Relations, Revenue and Fiscal Affairs,  
9 Transportation, Highways and Public Works, and Retirement, as well as the Select  
10 Committee on Vocational and Technical Education; and

11 WHEREAS, in addition to his keen interest in governmental affairs and criminal  
12 procedure, he authored legislation that addressed child support, consumer protection, health  
13 care, election reform, education, courts and judicial funding, taxation, and governmental  
14 ethics for public officials and employees; and

15 WHEREAS, his integrity, legal wisdom, and principled leadership earned Bob a  
16 nomination by President George H. W. Bush to the United States District Court for the  
17 Western District of Louisiana in 1992, reflecting the deep respect he commanded throughout  
18 his career; and

19 WHEREAS, he was inducted into the Louisiana Political Hall of Fame in 2022,  
20 honored for his life and career of service by his peers; and

21 WHEREAS, Bob was affiliated with numerous professional associations, including  
22 Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity, the American Bar Association, the Association of Appellate  
23 Judges, the Louisiana State Bar Association, the Fourth District Bar Association, and the  
24 Louisiana State Law Institute; and

25 WHEREAS, beyond his professional accomplishments, he was, above all else, a  
26 family man who remained steadfastly the "man of the house," a protector and provider  
27 whose presence brought a sense of security, steadiness, and love; and

28 WHEREAS, at home in Monroe, numerous civic and philanthropic organizations  
29 benefitted from Bob's active participation, including the Salvation Army as a three-time  
30 chairman, for which he received the Citizen of the Year Award; Rotary International,

1 District 6190, as board member and treasurer; the Boy Scouts of America as scout master  
2 and district chairman; the YMCA; and the Arthritis Foundation and Muscular Dystrophy  
3 Association, acting as past campaign chairman for both nonprofits; and

4 WHEREAS, as a faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church of Monroe, he  
5 served as a witness to the power of God's grace, as an elder of the church, and as a Sunday  
6 school teacher; and

7 WHEREAS, Bob found deep joy in travel, especially journeys out West, where the  
8 mountains and open skies of Montana held a special place in his heart and reflected his own  
9 spirit of grounded and enduring strength; and

10 WHEREAS, he was a warm and devoted husband and father, who led by example  
11 and instilled values of integrity, hard work, and faithfulness in his family; and

12 WHEREAS, Bob was married to the former Felicia Marie Danna, his helpmate in  
13 all things, who accompanied him to the Louisiana State Capitol during legislative sessions  
14 and served as his guiding light, as he served as her rock; inseparable sweethearts always; and

15 WHEREAS, he is survived by his beloved wife, Felicia; his children: Kathryn  
16 Lemoine, William "Bill" Kostelka (Donna), Carol Gros (Terry), and Claire Texada (Chase);  
17 his grandchildren: Evan Kostelka (Caroline), Katie Collandreau (Pierre), and Collins Marie  
18 Texada; his great-grandchildren: Cooper, Molly, Carter, Eleanore, and Madeleine; and many  
19 extended family members and friends who will miss him deeply and remember him always;  
20 and was preceded in death by his first wife, Bobbie, son, Cliff, sister, Billie, and countless  
21 friends and associates; and

22 WHEREAS, Bob leaves behind a remarkable legacy, not only in the justice he upheld  
23 and the service he gave, but in the lives he touched at home and beyond, and his family and  
24 friends will forever cherish his wisdom, steady guidance, stories, and the love that anchored  
25 them through generations; and

26 WHEREAS, his family can take comfort in knowing that he lived a full and  
27 honorable life, that he now rests in peace, reunited with those who went before him, and that  
28 his legacy will continue to live on through the family he loved, the values he passed down,  
29 and the countless lives he influenced through his service and example.

30 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana

