

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 60

BY REPRESENTATIVE JEFFERSON

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes September 6, 2013, as Alton "Red" Franklin Day in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize Friday, September 6, 2013, as Alton "Red" Franklin Day in the state of
3 Louisiana.

4 WHEREAS, Coach Alton "Red" Franklin served as head football coach at
5 Haynesville High School for thirty-five great seasons; and

6 WHEREAS, Alton "Red" Franklin was the youngest of five children born to Mr. and
7 Mrs. W. H. Franklin of Centreville, Alabama; and

8 WHEREAS, Coach Franklin attended Bibb County High School, where he was an
9 outstanding athlete, lettering each year of his high school career in football, basketball, and
10 baseball; and

11 WHEREAS, after graduating from high school, Coach Franklin received a football
12 scholarship to attend the University of Alabama, and he later transferred to Louisiana
13 College in Pineville, where he played football for the Wildcat team; and

14 WHEREAS, after earning his bachelor's degree from Louisiana College, Coach
15 Franklin pursued his master's degree at Mississippi College, and he later earned a plus thirty
16 from Louisiana Tech University; and

17 WHEREAS, Coach Franklin met his wife of fifty years, Beth Langford, when he was
18 a student at Louisiana College, and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin are the parents of three sons, Jeff,
19 David, and Tommy, all of whom played football under the coaching direction of their father;
20 and

1 WHEREAS, Coach and Mrs. Franklin are also the proud grandparents of seven
2 grandchildren, Macy, Caroline, Erin, Trent, Toby, Hayden, and Blake; and

3 WHEREAS, Coach Franklin began his career in Marksville in 1961, where he
4 coached with the late Warren Douglas, and in 1963 he moved to Springhill High School,
5 where he coached for three years with the late Travis Farrar; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1967, Coach Franklin became an assistant to Coach M.D. Ray in
7 Haynesville, where he was later promoted to head coach of the Golden Tornado, a position
8 he occupied for the next thirty-five seasons; and

9 WHEREAS, Coach Franklin was the president of the Louisiana High School
10 Coaches Association from 1976 until 1977, served as coach for the Louisiana All-Star
11 Football Team for ten years and as coordinator for two years, served as a member of the
12 board of the Louisiana High School Coaches Association executive committee and the
13 National Federation High School Rules Committee, and served on the Louisiana Football
14 Coaches Association executive committee; and

15 WHEREAS, in thirty-five seasons under the outstanding leadership of Coach
16 Franklin, Haynesville High played a total of four hundred fifty games, with three hundred
17 sixty-six wins, eight ties, and only seventy-six losses; and

18 WHEREAS, this remarkable record has merited Coach Franklin an enviable
19 distinction, putting him in second place for Louisiana's best all-time, all-class, head coaching
20 record; and

21 WHEREAS, thanks in large part to Coach Franklin, Haynesville High School's
22 program is the second most winning in Louisiana and the twenty-seventh most winning in
23 the nation, including eight state runoffs and fifteen state championships in 1923, 1936, 1970,
24 1971, 1984, 1987, 1990, 1991, 1993-1996, 2000, and 2009; and

25 WHEREAS, Coach Franklin has been recognized with numerous awards and honors
26 throughout his extraordinary career, including District Coach of the Year for twenty-three
27 years, State Coach of the Year for six years, and Region Five Coach of the Year in 1985 and
28 1993; he was elected to the LHSCA/LHSAA Hall of Fame in 1991, the Louisiana College
29 Hall of Fame, and the North Louisiana Chapter of the National Football Foundation Hall of
30 Fame; he was elected Sportsman of the Year for Northwest Louisiana in 1996, and he

1 received the Lion's Club Thirty Year Appreciation and Achievement Award as coach and
2 Christian role model to youth; and

3 WHEREAS, in 2004, Coach Franklin was inducted into the Louisiana Sports Hall
4 of Fame; and

5 WHEREAS, on July 10, 2010, Coach Franklin received the high honor of being
6 inducted into the National Federation of State High School Associations Hall of Fame Class
7 of 2010; and

8 WHEREAS, Coach Franklin is an active member of First Baptist Church in
9 Haynesville where he has served as deacon since 1969; and

10 WHEREAS, Coach Franklin still serves as an assistant coach to his son, David
11 Franklin at Haynesville High; and

12 WHEREAS, on Friday, September 6, 2013, the Claiborne Parish School Board will
13 rename the Haynesville High School Memorial Stadium to Red Franklin-Memorial Stadium
14 in honor of Coach Franklin's many contributions to the football program at Haynesville High
15 School; and

16 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana wishes to
17 recognize Coach Franklin for his manifold contributions and service to the youth of his
18 community and the state of Louisiana and to record his many accomplishments during the
19 course of his outstanding career.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
21 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Friday, September 6, 2013, as Alton "Red"
22 Franklin Day in Louisiana, does hereby commend and congratulate Coach Franklin upon his
23 outstanding record as head coach of Haynesville High School during thirty-five years of
24 distinguished leadership, does hereby recognize and record his many contributions to the
25 community and the state as a dedicated educator and role model, and does extend best
26 wishes to this legendary Louisiana coach in all of his future endeavors.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
28 to Coach Alton "Red" Franklin, head football coach at Haynesville High School from 1967
29 until 2002 and that one suitable copy be placed at the Red Franklin-Memorial Stadium.

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)]

Jefferson

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