

2020 Second Extraordinary Session

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

BY SENATOR FOIL

CONDOLENCES. Expresses condolences upon the death of Frank Leonard.

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A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of Francis "Frank" Harwood Leonard Sr.

WHEREAS, Frank Leonard was born to Harold Colegrove Leonard and Mary Addington Leonard in El Paso, Texas, on January 8, 1931, and died peacefully in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, on September 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, soon after his birth, Frank moved with his family to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and as a child he made cherished memories being the mayor of Mrs. Laura Callihan's kindergarten school, becoming a Dufroq Duck through his attendance at Dufroq Elementary School, and he enjoyed attending Louisiana State University's Laboratory School, as it was then known; and

WHEREAS, Frank also served as a Junior Air warden and became involved with growing a plentiful Victory Garden, grown as a way to forestall any food shortages during World War II and an outward sign of patriotic support for the troops and the war effort; and

WHEREAS, during his idyllic childhood in Baton Rouge, Mr. Leonard also raised chickens and owned a reputedly handsome rooster by the name of General McArthur, after the famous general; and

WHEREAS, the area of Capital Heights where Frank Leonard and his childhood

1 buddies played was known as Hutsut Town, where several fathers, including his own, built
2 a suspension bridge, and Frank was elected the president of the little band of children; and

3 WHEREAS, after graduating from Baton Rouge High, Frank Leonard served in the
4 United States Air Force during the Korean War; and

5 WHEREAS, upon an honorable discharge in August 1952, Mr. Leonard began
6 studies at LSU and graduated with a bachelor's degree in agriculture; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1957, Mr. Leonard established the Leonard Agency, an independent
8 insurance agency which he owned for over thirty years; and

9 WHEREAS, Frank Leonard also established the Leonard Construction Company, a
10 residential and light commercial and subdivision development company; and

11 WHEREAS, during this time of post-war and mid-century growth, Frank Leonard
12 served with distinction on the executive board of the Capital Region Builders Association
13 (CRBA), an indication of how highly regarded he was among his peers; and

14 WHEREAS, in 1994, Mr. Leonard established Leonard Builders, which built
15 hundreds of new residences in the Baton Rouge area during its twenty years of building; and

16 WHEREAS, Leonard Builders was chosen in 2000 to build a new office building for
17 the association, a proud moment for Frank Leonard; and

18 WHEREAS, Frank Leonard assisted in implementing CRBA's transition to becoming
19 independently insured by forming their own general liability and workers' compensation
20 companies, an effort that Frank found most rewarding; and

21 WHEREAS, Mr. Leonard was a very successful businessman, but his life had many
22 facets beyond his work life, especially his commitment to his family: his beloved wife,
23 Bahin Hootsell Leonard, with whom he shared fifty-eight years of marriage, and the two
24 sons they raised, Francis Harwood Leonard Jr. and John Hootsell Leonard; and

25 WHEREAS, beyond devotion to his family and enjoying involvement in the lives of
26 his sons and their families, including four grandchildren, he also cherished his numerous
27 nieces and nephews and extended family; Frank Leonard was also a very dedicated and
28 active member of St. James Episcopal Church; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Leonard's participation at St. James included serving as an acolyte
30 as a youngster and later in adult roles of lay reader, member of the associate vestry and the

1 vestry, and the special gift of raising his voice in loving praise, singing in St. James' choir
2 until last year; and

3 WHEREAS, Frank Leonard was active in the Angola Prison Ministry and he loved
4 singing with the prisoners and sharing the joyous message of Christ's love with the
5 particularly hungry souls at Angola; and

6 WHEREAS, having lived a long life committed to work, family, faith, and his
7 community, Frank Harwood Leonard certainly left Baton Rouge a better place than he found
8 it and wonderful memories of him will be cherished by his dear wife, his family, his church,
9 and his community.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
11 express its sincere condolences upon the death of Francis Harwood Leonard of Baton Rouge,
12 Louisiana.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to
14 Bahin Hootsell Leonard and her family.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Mary Dozier O'Brien.

DIGEST

SCR 1 Original

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