



1           WHEREAS, in recognition of his lifetime of generosity, Bob was honored with The  
2 National Red Cross Humanitarian of the Year Award, The University of New Orleans  
3 Chancellor's Medallion for Distinguished Service, The New Orleans Council for Community  
4 & Justice's Weiss Award, Mobil Oil Company's "Strategic Partner of the Year," Gambit's  
5 New Orleanian of the Year, The Alexis de Tocqueville Lifetime Achievement Award from  
6 United Way, and the prestigious Times-Picayune Loving Cup; and

7           WHEREAS, in 1986, Bob purchased Latter & Blum, Inc./Realtors, one of the largest  
8 and oldest full service real estate companies in Louisiana; and

9           WHEREAS, in October 1988, Bob served as a member of the Real Estate Appraisal  
10 Subcommittee of the Louisiana Real Estate Commission; and

11           WHEREAS, Bob acquired numerous real estate brokerage firms including C.J.  
12 Brown Realtors in Baton Rouge, Noles Frye Realty in Alexandria, Van Eaton & Romeo in  
13 Lafayette, and Realty Associates in Houston, Texas; Bob grew Latter and Blum into one of  
14 the largest and most successful full service real estate firms in the Gulf South before selling  
15 it to Compass Real Estate; and

16           WHEREAS, throughout his life, Bob formed countless friendships with the  
17 employees and agents of what he called his "other family", the Latter and Blum/Compass  
18 group; and

19           WHEREAS, Bob had a unique sense of humor and an uncanny ability to connect  
20 with people from all walks of life; he enriched the world around him with love, laughter, and  
21 generosity; and

22           WHEREAS, an avid lover of the outdoors, Bob found immense joy in stalking wild  
23 turkeys, fly fishing in the saltwater flats of Mexico, and appreciating the beauty of nature;  
24 and

25           WHEREAS, Bob Merrick leaves behind a legacy of philanthropy and leadership and  
26 a profound impact on the hearts of those who knew him; and

27           WHEREAS, left to cherish the memory of Bob Merrick are his wife, Sheryl; sisters,  
28 Patricia Merrick Brinson and Susan Merrick; daughters, Elizabeth Merrick, Christine  
29 Merrick Stewart, Amanda Merrick Seale, and Lacey Merrick Conway; stepson, Justin  
30 Duplantis; grandchildren, Taylor Ghere Smith, Laney Ghere Marion, Lillian Andersson,

1 Merrick Andersson, Henry Andersson, Tatem Seale, Alexander Seale, Merrick Seale, Olivia  
2 Conway, and Hunter Conway; and stepgrandchildren, Braden Wheat, Timothé Duplantis,  
3 and Chloe Duplantis; he will be deeply missed, but the legacy of his love shall live on in  
4 perpetuity in the hearts and minds of those who were privileged to have known him.

5       THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
6 extend its heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Robert "Bob" Winfred Merrick  
7 and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that his family, friends, and loved ones find comfort  
8 in their shared memories of his beautiful life.

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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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HCR 62 Original

2025 Regular Session

Freeman

Expresses the condolences of the legislature on the death of Robert "Bob" Winfred Merrick.