

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 59

BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS

COMMENDATIONS: Commends Shreveport native Richard Williams, the father and coach of tennis stars Venus and Serena Williams, for his many achievements

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To commend Shreveport native Richard Williams, the father and coach of tennis stars Venus
3 and Serena Williams, for his many achievements.

4 WHEREAS, it is most fitting to recognize Richard Williams, the father and coach
5 of tennis legends Venus and Serena Williams, and to commend his many achievements; and

6 WHEREAS, Richard Williams grew up in Shreveport, Louisiana, and lived with his
7 mother, Julia, and siblings in a three-room shack on East Seventy-Ninth Street; he was the
8 oldest child and had four sisters: Pat, Barbara, Penny, and Faye; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams is best known as the father and coach of Venus and
10 Serena Williams; his daughters won thirty combined grand slam singles titles and competed
11 against each other in nine finals matches; and

12 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams's daughters won seventeen doubles titles in only thirty-
13 three major appearances, and they have three gold medals in Olympic tennis doubles; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Williams stood out from many other coaching fathers; he was an
15 especially supportive parent who not only trained his daughters to compete in tennis but also
16 to be proud and independent young women; and

17 WHEREAS, Richard Williams is truly deserving of the highest recognition for his
18 unprecedented coaching legacy and for emerging from incredibly difficult circumstances to
19 raise the two greatest competitors in women's tennis history.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
21 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend Shreveport native Richard Williams, the

1 father and coach of tennis stars Venus and Serena Williams, for his many achievements and
2 does hereby express enduring gratitude for his trailblazing contributions to professional
3 tennis.

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 59 Original

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Walters

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