

2026 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 78

BY REPRESENTATIVE FREEMAN

A RESOLUTION

To express the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Olga Bandi Riegel.

WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing, on September 28, 2025, of Olga Bandi Riegel; and

WHEREAS, Olga was born on Christmas Day in 1944 to Olga Parlongue Bandi and Nicholas J. Bandi and was a lifelong resident of New Orleans, Louisiana; she was an only child who was cherished by her parents and was raised to share the gift of friendship with everyone; and

WHEREAS, Olga attended Holy Name of Jesus School and graduated from Mercy Academy in 1962; from 1962 to 1966, she attended Louisiana State University, where she was a proud member of Chi Omega sorority and made many lifelong friends; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Riegel forged deep and abiding friendships with many people from diverse cultures and countries; she was known to welcome others into her home and share delicious home-cooked meals, warmth, laughter, and stimulating conversation; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Riegel embraced the vibrant and rich culture of New Orleans and loved the city's Dixieland Jazz, R&B, Mardi Gras, Jazz Fest, and neighborhood restaurants; she celebrated every day of her life and made many people laugh with her zany and humorous personality; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Riegel cherished raising her three daughters and was an active volunteer at their school, Academy of the Sacred Heart, where she served as the Mother's Club president; she was a member of St. Rita's Parish and several other religious, social, and civic organizations throughout her adult life; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Riegel was thrilled to become a grandmother in her fifties and spent many years playing an active role in the lives and care of her seven grandchildren who loved her dearly and benefitted from her wisdom and generosity; and

WHEREAS, Olga Bandi Riegel is survived by her loving husband of sixty years, Philip R. Riegel; daughters, Stephanie Riegel (Gregory Woolverton), Tracey Koch (David), and Kristen Riegel (Jeff Thacher); grandchildren, Allison Woolverton, Madeleine Heyob (Ben), Michael Woolverton, Jon David Koch, Maggie Koch, Sarah Hook, and Christopher Hook; and great-granddaughter, Catherine Heyob; she will be deeply missed, but the legacy of her loving spirit shall live on in the hearts and minds of those who were privileged to have known and loved her.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Olga Bandi Riegel and does hereby extend sincere wishes that her family, friends, and loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of her beautiful life.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES