

1 the University of the South's Theological School extension program entitled "Education for
2 Ministry" and was a mentor in the program for six years; and

3 WHEREAS, after retiring, Ms. Benjamin pursued her passion for volunteering; she
4 joined the board of the New Orleans Symphony in 1983; she was a music lover whose
5 grandparents helped found the orchestra in 1936, and she led the board for five years; and

6 WHEREAS, in 1991, the orchestra became the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra,
7 and it holds the distinction of being the oldest full-time musician-governed and
8 collaboratively operated orchestra in the United States; Ms. Benjamin has contributed
9 through endowments for the orchestra's music director and principal conductor, the latter of
10 which is named in her honor; in 1997, the orchestra dedicated a week of concerts to her; and

11 WHEREAS, Ms. Benjamin sat on numerous boards, including the Louisiana
12 Museum Foundation, the National WWII Museum, the Louise S. McGehee School, and
13 numerous family foundations; and

14 WHEREAS, Ms. Benjamin was presented with an honorary doctorate from Loyola
15 University New Orleans, and the university's president's council gave her its Integritas Vitae
16 Award in 1994; and

17 WHEREAS, Adelaide Wisdom Benjamin is survived by her sons, Edward Wisdom
18 "Ned" Benjamin and Stuart Minor Benjamin; daughters, Mary Dabney Benjamin and Ann
19 Leith Benjamin Hill; ten grandchildren; and a great-granddaughter who is named after her;
20 she will be deeply missed, but the legacy of her outstanding service to the city of New
21 Orleans and love of her family shall live on in the hearts and minds of those who were
22 privileged to have known and loved her.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
24 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Adelaide
25 Wisdom Benjamin; does hereby express enduring appreciation for her contributions to the
26 city of New Orleans; and does hereby extend sincere wishes that her family, friends, and
27 loved ones find comfort in their shared memories of her beautiful life.

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 406 Original

2026 Regular Session

Freeman

Expresses the condolences of the House of Representatives on the death of Adelaide Wisdom Benjamin.