

BY REPRESENTATIVE CARTER AND SENATOR ALARIO

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Theodore "Teddy" George

3 Solomon, Sr., of New Orleans.

4 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the

5 Legislature of Louisiana have learned of the death of a true legend, Theodore "Teddy"

6 George Solomon, Sr., on Sunday, April 7, 2013, at the age of ninety-three; and

7 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon was born to the late Najeeb Solomon, a Lebanese

8 immigrant, and America Solomon in Port Arthur, Texas, on January 5, 1920, and grew up

9 in McComb, Mississippi; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon graduated from Louisiana State University with a

11 bachelor's degree in business administration before serving his country with valor and

12 fortitude during World War II as a member of the Army Air Force; and

13 WHEREAS, after the war, Mr. Solomon returned to McComb and married Doris

14 Julia Carwie of Mobile, Alabama, in 1949; the couple had six children and relocated to New

15 Orleans in 1969; and

16 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon's rise to becoming a pioneer of the film industry began

17 as a child when he worked in the silent movie house that was built by his father and uncle;

18 and

19 WHEREAS, in 1948, Mr. Solomon entered the family business, forming Gulf States

20 Theatres; and

1 WHEREAS, in his seven decades in the movie business, Mr. Solomon owned and
2 operated every kind of theater, from indoor single screens to drive-ins and stadium-style
3 megaplexes; and

4 WHEREAS, a true example of the American Dream, Mr. Solomon worked hard his
5 entire life, growing his family's single movie house to more than six hundred theaters and
6 drive-ins spread across eight states; and

7 WHEREAS, in 1975, Mr. Solomon was elected president of the National Association
8 of Theatre Owners, leading the reform of film bidding practices that continue to shape the
9 industry; and

10 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon began the Louisiana Film Commission, the entity that
11 would ultimately establish Louisiana as the "Hollywood of the South"; and

12 WHEREAS, during a lifetime worthy of the silver screen, Mr. Solomon built a
13 theater empire, sharing his immense love for the movies with countless others; and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon was equally known for his philanthropy, supporting
15 several local and national organizations, including the Solomon Episcopal Conference
16 Center, the Variety Club, and the Will Rogers Institute; and

17 WHEREAS, among Mr. Solomon's greatest philanthropic accomplishments were his
18 donation of the City Park train ride in New Orleans, his donation of an eighty-acre
19 northshore tract in Loranger to the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana, and his endowment of
20 the multi-million-dollar Solomon Victory Theater at the National World War II Museum;
21 and

22 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon served on the boards of the Louisiana Philharmonic
23 Orchestra, the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Foundation, and the New
24 Orleans Film and Video Festival; and

25 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon received numerous awards throughout his lifetime for his
26 many contributions to society, including his selection to the Junior Achievement Business
27 Hall of Fame in 1993, being named New Orleans Man of the Year in 1996 and ShowWester
28 of the Year in 2004, and the Junior Achievement Lifetime Award in 2010; and

29 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon also reigned as King Hermes XLIX in 1989 and was a
30 lifelong member of the Episcopal Church; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon was preceded in death by his two sisters, Yvonne
2 Solomon Thomas and Gloria Solomon; and

3 WHEREAS, Mr. Solomon is survived by his beloved wife, Doris Carwie; his six
4 devoted children, George Solomon and wife Karen, Gloria Carter and husband Stephen,
5 Gladys Brown and husband Jim, Glenda Bradley and husband Jim, Gary Solomon and wife
6 Martha, and Glenn Solomon and wife Margaret; sixteen grandchildren; and six great-
7 grandchildren; and

8 WHEREAS, the death of Teddy Solomon has left a great void and created a genuine
9 sense of sorrow in all who knew him, including his family, his friends, and those who are
10 following in his footsteps in the film industry of Louisiana, all of whom mourn the loss of
11 this wonderful man who served his state and nation so well; and

12 WHEREAS, Teddy Solomon was a beloved member of the "Greatest Generation"
13 who leaves behind a rich and unique legacy of hard work and dedication and is greatly
14 missed by all whose lives he touched.

15 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
16 express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Theodore "Teddy" George
17 Solomon, Sr., of New Orleans, does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable
18 accomplishments and singular contributions, and does hereby extend enduring appreciation
19 for the pride and honor that this extraordinary man will forever bring to his family and
20 friends, the city of New Orleans, the state of Louisiana, and the United States of America.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
22 to the family of Teddy Solomon.

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)]

Carter

HCR No. 65

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