

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 17

BY REPRESENTATIVES STUART BISHOP, ABRAMSON, NANCY LANDRY, AND  
ROBIDEAUX AND SENATOR CORTEZ

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences upon the death of and posthumously commends  
Carl Bauer of Lafayette

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To express condolences upon the death of Carl W. "Wimpy" Bauer and to express enduring  
3 gratitude for his outstanding contributions to Acadiana and the state of Louisiana,  
4 particularly during his tenure as a distinguished member of the Louisiana House of  
5 Representatives.

6 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the Louisiana House of  
7 Representatives has learned of the death of Carl W. "Wimpy" Bauer, of Lafayette, on June  
8 11, 2013, at the age of seventy-nine; and

9 WHEREAS, Carl Packard Wiegmann was born in Centerville, Louisiana, on October  
10 4, 1933, as the third son of Fred and Mary Packard Wiegmann; his biological parents  
11 divorced a few years later, and he was placed in a foster home in Alpine, Texas, at the age  
12 of five; and

13 WHEREAS, the foster home was arranged by a distant cousin, Margaret Wooster  
14 Bauer, whose aunt, Elma Wooster Boudreaux, took care of Carl until he was twelve; he then  
15 returned to Louisiana, initially as the foster child of Margaret Wooster Bauer and her  
16 husband, R. Norman Bauer, both lawyers in their mid-forties; and

17 WHEREAS, the Bauers formally adopted Carl the following year and changed his  
18 name to Carl Wiegmann Bauer; he enjoyed life in Franklin, Louisiana, as the only child of  
19 Margaret and Norman Bauer and was blessed from the moment he entered their home; and

1 WHEREAS, Carl carried their name proudly from the day of his adoption until death,  
2 always remembering just how fortunate he was to have such loving parents who gave him  
3 not only their revered name but their wisdom, work ethic, generosity, and kindness; and

4 WHEREAS, upon graduating from Franklin High School in 1951, Carl enrolled at  
5 Louisiana State University (LSU), where he completed his undergraduate work and the first  
6 year of law school in 1955; having completed the Reserve Officer Training Corps program  
7 at LSU, he was then called to active duty, to be trained as a navigator at Ellington Air Force  
8 Base in Houston, Texas; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Bauer received his Air Force wings and was stationed in Waco,  
10 Texas, Panama City, Florida, and Sacramento, California, before being released from active  
11 duty in 1957; and

12 WHEREAS, upon his return to civilian life, Mr. Bauer completed his legal education  
13 at LSU and joined the law firm of his father, Norman, and beloved uncle, Theodore, at Bauer  
14 and Bauer, Attorneys at Law; and

15 WHEREAS, Carl, at the age of fourteen, was a page in the Louisiana House of  
16 Representatives, where his father served as Speaker of the House under Governors Sam  
17 Jones and Jimmy Davis; this was a life-changing experience for Carl as he became severely  
18 infected with the "political bug"; and

19 WHEREAS, in 1965, Mr. Bauer entered a special election race for a vacant seat in  
20 the House of Representatives, representing St. Mary Parish, the same parish his father had  
21 served with admirable distinction; Carl won that election, completed the unexpired term of  
22 two years, and then successfully ran for a full term in a newly created district which included  
23 Iberia Parish; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Bauer served four full years in the House of Representatives under  
25 the administration of Governor John McKeithen; during his tenure in the legislature, he  
26 championed many causes of good government and tirelessly promoted funding the four-  
27 laning of US Highway 90 from Lafayette to New Orleans; and

28 WHEREAS, Mr. Bauer continued this highway interest and determination after  
29 leaving public office through dedicated efforts towards transforming Highway 90 to  
30 interstate standards as a continuation of I-49; and

1           WHEREAS, in 1972, Mr. Bauer ran unopposed for a new senate district and served  
2 a full term; and

3           WHEREAS, at the age of fifty-seven, Mr. Bauer joined the staff of Dr. Ray  
4 Authement, the President of the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL), as the  
5 coordinator of governmental relations; Carl served in this capacity until shortly after Dr.  
6 Authement's retirement nearly twenty years later; and

7           WHEREAS, Carl Bauer lived a long, active, and varied life full of love, opportunity,  
8 people, and experiences; he had a successful law practice, numerous business interests,  
9 unprecedented career opportunities, and a wonderful family, along with a multitude of  
10 friends; and

11           WHEREAS, Mr. Bauer's professional career included membership on many boards  
12 of directors, including the Lafayette Economic Development Association, the Louisiana  
13 Enterprise Center, the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, and the Gulf and Great  
14 Plains Legal Foundation, in addition to several private landholding companies; and

15           WHEREAS, while in the practice of law, Carl served the State Bar Association in  
16 both the House of Delegates and on the Board of Governors; in 1968, he was elected as  
17 president of the LSU Foundation; and

18           WHEREAS, Mr. Bauer also served several years as a member of the board of the  
19 USL Foundation and was involved in the Boy Scouts; he was a longtime member and past  
20 chairman of the Board of Goodwill of Acadiana; and

21           WHEREAS, while still in Franklin, Mr. Bauer served on and chaired both the  
22 Administrative Board and the Trustees of the First Methodist Church and when he moved  
23 to Lafayette, he was an active member of Asbury United Methodist Church; he was also a  
24 Master Mason, a Shriner, and a member of Rotary; and

25           WHEREAS, Mr. Bauer is survived by his loving wife of thirty-three years, Mary  
26 Jane Peacher Bauer; six wonderful children; and eight adored grandchildren; and

27           WHEREAS, Carl W. Bauer received much from his two marriages, including the  
28 love and devotion of six remarkable children, four of his own blood and two by virtue of a  
29 superb marriage to Mary Jane, whom he loved beyond belief; his blessings multiplied with

1 the births of his eight marvelous grandchildren, each of whom he adored as they mutually  
2 adored their "Poppy"; and

3 WHEREAS, while he experienced his share of heartache, including the loss of his  
4 sight in recent years, he never lost sight of the positives in his life; Carl Bauer was a very  
5 positive person who left this world firmly convinced that life is good, family is love, friends  
6 are priceless, and God has blessed America; and

7 WHEREAS, the death of Mr. Bauer has left a great void and created a genuine sense  
8 of sorrow in all who knew him, including the members of the legislative family, all of whom  
9 mourn the loss of this wonderful man who served his state and this institution with  
10 distinction, integrity, and statesmanship.

11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
12 express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of former state representative Carl  
13 W. "Wimpy" Bauer and does hereby record for posterity the enduring appreciation of the  
14 citizens of Louisiana for his outstanding contributions and achievements, particularly during  
15 his tenure as a distinguished member of the Louisiana House of Representatives.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted  
17 to the family of Carl Bauer.

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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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Stuart Bishop

HCR No. 17

Expresses the condolences of the legislature upon the death of former state representative Carl Bauer.