

1 WHEREAS, as the state representative for District No. 21, Mr. Ater served diligently
2 as a member of several committees, including the House Committee on Agriculture, the
3 House Committee on Enrollment, the House Committee on House and Governmental
4 Affairs, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the House Committee on
5 Transportation, Highways and Public Works, of which he served as vice chairman; he also
6 served on the House Legislative Services Council; and

7 WHEREAS, opting not to run for reelection after his second term in the legislature,
8 Mr. Ater returned to the private sector; in 2001, he was named Secretary of State Fox
9 McKeithen's first assistant; he then worked as first deputy in the Department of Insurance
10 for a year before returning to the secretary of state's office; in 2005, following Mr.
11 McKeithen's death, Mr. Ater served as secretary of state; and

12 WHEREAS, Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita struck the state while Mr. Ater
13 served in this office, and he was widely praised for his handling of complex election issues
14 in the aftermath of these historic storms; and

15 WHEREAS, in 2009, Mr. Ater was deservedly recognized for his accomplishments
16 and contributions as a public servant when he was inducted into the Louisiana Political
17 Museum and Hall of Fame, and the following year, he retired from public service in order
18 to focus on his primary passions of farming and family; and

19 WHEREAS, throughout the course of his life and career, Mr. Ater generously shared
20 his time, talents, and expertise through his work with the Louisiana Tourism Development
21 Commission, the Governor's Advisory Council on Disability Affairs, the Concordia Parish
22 Farm Bureau, Catalyst Energy in Vidalia, the Louisiana School Employees' Retirement
23 System, the Louisiana Workers' Compensation Second Injury Board, the International
24 Association of Corporation Administrators, and the National Association of Secretaries of
25 State; and

26 WHEREAS, Mr. Ater was preceded in death by his parents, Donald Edward and
27 Lavonne Ater, and his sister, Kay Ater Goeggle; he is survived by his wife of thirty-two
28 years, Susie Beard Ater; his children, Whitney Lauren Ater, Thomas Ater, and Elliott Ater;
29 his grandsons, Soren Riker, Kai Riker, and Benton Ater; his granddaughters, Maya Fuentes

1 and Graciela Fuentes; his siblings, Donald Ater, Lynette Ater Tanner, and Edward Ater; and
2 numerous nieces and nephews; and

3 WHEREAS, the death of Mr. Ater has left a great void and created a genuine sense
4 of sorrow in all who knew him, including the members of the House family, all of whom
5 mourn the loss of this wonderful man who served his state and this institution so well; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Ater will never be forgotten, leaves a rich and unique legacy, and
7 is greatly missed by the many citizens whose lives he touched.

8 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
9 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the
10 death of Alan Ray "Al" Ater; does hereby recognize and record for posterity his notable
11 accomplishments and singular contributions during his eight-year tenure as a member of the
12 Louisiana House of Representatives and his distinguished service as secretary of state; and
13 does hereby extend enduring appreciation for this wonderful man who will forever bring
14 pride and honor to his family, his community, and his state.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
16 to the family of Al Ater.

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 151 Original

2017 Regular Session

Anders

Expresses condolences upon the death of Al Ater, who formerly served as a member of the La. House of Representatives and as secretary of state.