

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 123

BY SENATORS PEACOCK, ALARIO, ALLAIN, APPEL, BARROW, BISHOP, BOUDREAUX, CARTER, CHABERT, CLAITOR, COLOMB, CORTEZ, DONAHUE, ERDEY, FANNIN, GATTI, HEWITT, JOHNS, LAFLEUR, LAMBERT, LONG, LUNEAU, MARTINY, MILKOVICH, MILLS, MIZELL, MORRELL, MORRISH, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD AND WHITE AND REPRESENTATIVES STEVE CARTER, DAVIS, EDMONDS, FOIL, HOFFMANN AND JAMES

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commemorate the lifetime achievements of publisher and entrepreneur,
Robert G. "Bob" Claitor Sr.

WHEREAS, Robert G. Claitor Sr. was a dynamo of free enterprise, fueled by a tenacity to succeed and a willingness to work hard; and

WHEREAS, Bob created a diverse palette of business enterprises that included the expansion of Claitor's Bookstore and commercial real estate development; and

WHEREAS, Robert Gregory Claitor was born into the family of Otto and Mabel Claitor on September 20, 1926; and

WHEREAS, he was a voracious reader, an exceptional student athlete at Catholic High School, and achieved the rank of Eagle Scout; and

WHEREAS, after graduation from high school in 1943, he attended the United States Naval Academy as a midshipman and graduated in 1948 as a commissioned officer, an ensign in the United States Navy, with a bachelor of science degree; and

WHEREAS, while at the Naval Academy, Bob was a stellar athlete whose height advantage and athletic ability made him a standout on the basketball and water polo teams; and

WHEREAS, he served his country during the Korean Conflict and was honorably discharged having achieved the rank of Lieutenant (junior grade); and

WHEREAS, upon his return home, he joined his parents in the family business, Claitor's Bookstore, and expanded its publishing operations to include the publication of documents from the United States Government Printing Office, Louisiana law books, graduate student dissertations, and numerous federal regulations; and

WHEREAS, Bob Claitor was essential in the publication of titles by fiction and nonfiction writers who authored books on cooking, local history, culture, gardening, and sports; and

WHEREAS, Claitor's Bookstore was the largest privately-owned bookstore of its kind in Baton Rouge for over five decades until national chains overtook the market and the bookstore closed its operations, however, Claitor's Law Books and Publishing Division is still going strong today; and

WHEREAS, his commercial real estate ventures included the development of Acadian-Perkins Plaza in Baton Rouge and Marina del Ray in Madisonville; and

WHEREAS, he married Nancy McLellan and together they celebrated many years of love and devotion and their union was blessed by the birth of four sons, James, Robert Jr, Daniel, and Jon; and

WHEREAS, several nonprofit organizations benefitted from his guidance with membership in the Rotary Club and the Baton Rouge Area Chamber of Commerce, and as a parishioner at St. Aloysius Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, Bob Claitor was an extraordinary man of copious achievements, and his public persona was well-tempered by his thoughtful contemplation and personal inclination toward solitude and quiet reflection; and

WHEREAS, he survived his wife, Nancy, and is survived by his sons, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, extended family, and cherished friends; and

WHEREAS, Bob Claitor was a man of great intellect, a caring individual who has left an indelible mark on the Baton Rouge community, who envisioned economic potential and opportunity, and who met the challenges of life head-on with zeal and candor tempered with immense love of family and compassion for his fellow man.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby celebrate the extraordinary life of Robert G. Claitor Sr. and does hereby commend the rich legacy that he leaves to his community, state, and nation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express admiration for the family and friends of this great man and especially for his son, our friend and colleague, Senator Dan Claitor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of Robert G. "Bob" Claitor Sr.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES