HLS 18RS-2388 ORIGINAL

2018 Regular Session

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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 43

BY REPRESENTATIVES LEGER, BAGNERIS, AND GAROFALO

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences upon the death of Edward McNeill, Jr., of New Orleans

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

## 2 To express condolences upon the death of Edward McNeill, Jr. 3 WHEREAS, it is with deep regret and profound sorrow that the members of the 4 Louisiana Legislature have learned of the death of Edward McNeill, Jr., on January 7, 2018, 5 at the age of eighty-seven; and 6 WHEREAS, Edward McNeill, Jr., was born on July 21, 1930, to Gladys and Edward 7 McNeill, Sr.; he joined the New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau in 1972, and as 8 president of the bureau, Ed helped put New Orleans on the map as a destination for group 9 business and conventions; major milestones that happened under his watch include the 10 Mercedes-Benz Superdome opening in 1975, the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention 11 Center opening in 1985, New Orleans hosting eight Super Bowls and four NCAA men's 12 basketball Final Fours, and an increase in the number of visitors to New Orleans from less 13 than half a million per year to more than eight million; and 14 WHEREAS, Edward McNeill, Sr., introduced his son to the meetings sector when 15 he worked at the Atlantic City Convention Center; Edward McNeill, Jr., attended Albright 16 College in Reading, Pennsylvania; and 17 WHEREAS, Ed arrived in New Orleans after working at the Atlantic City 18 Convention Center and serving as Director of Sales for what is now the San Francisco Travel 19 Association; Ed tirelessly worked for the New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau as 20 president until his retirement in 2003; thereafter he resided in Windermere, Florida; and

1 WHEREAS, Ed set the standard in area's tourism industry for customer relations; he 2 was uninterested with politics and his clients were his first priority; and 3 WHEREAS, his hard work and passion impacted the lives of many people and 4 positively changed the face of tourism in New Orleans; Ed was inducted into the 5 Destinations International Hall of Fame in 2015; and 6 WHEREAS, Ed is survived by his loving wife, Sylvia; children, Linda, Teri, and 7 Edward, III; brother, Jim; and five grandchildren; and 8 WHEREAS, although the death of Edward McNeill, Jr., has left a tremendous void 9 in New Orleans and in the tourist industry that he served so long and so well, his legacy shall 10 forever live in the hearts and minds of all the citizens whose lives he touched. 11 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby 12 express sincere and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Edward McNeill, Jr.; does 13 hereby recognize and record for posterity the accomplishments and contributions of Mr. 14 McNeill, who was an exemplary businessman who cared deeply about his job, the city of 15 New Orleans, his staff, and his clients; and does hereby pay tribute to Edward McNeill, Jr., 16 for the generous and effective way in which he dedicated his intelligence and his energy to 17 the city of New Orleans. 18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the 19 family of Edward McNeill, Jr.

## 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)]

HCR 43 Original

2018 Regular Session

Leger

Expresses the condolences of the legislature upon the death of Edward McNeill, Jr., former president of the New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau.