

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 53

BY SENATOR FOIL

A RESOLUTION

To express the sincere condolences of the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the death of James Randall Goodwin, businessman and tireless community leader in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

WHEREAS, James Randall Goodwin was born in Trinity, Texas, to Daniel Frank and Ollie Atkinson Goodwin of Kilgore, Texas, on April 4, 1933, and he died on January 16, 2020, in his adopted hometown of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, early in his life Randall Goodwin moved with his family to Baton Rouge and he called Baton Rouge his home for his entire life; and

WHEREAS, in 1950, Randall Goodwin graduated from Baton Rouge High School and in 1987, he was inducted into the Baton Rouge High School Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Goodwin moved from Baton Rouge High School to Louisiana State University where he became a member of Kappa Alpha Order, making many lifelong friendships among his fraternity brothers and earning a bachelor's degree in zoology; and

WHEREAS, Randall Goodwin married his beloved Margaret and the couple raised three daughters and one son: Lee Ann, Margaret Lynn, Garland, and James Randall "Randy" Jr., and the couple treasured their grandchildren, who brought endless joy and delight to their lives; and

WHEREAS, following college, Randall Goodwin joined forces with his maternal uncle, Jack Atkinson, and established the Goodwin-Gauthier Insurance Agency, and eventually, he founded the Randall Goodwin Insurance Agency, serving as president of both entities; and

WHEREAS, seeing community service as an important duty, Mr. Goodwin was active in his community, even during his busy years of building his insurance career, including years of membership in the Rotary Club of Baton Rouge and as a Paul Harris Fellow, an appellation in recognition of having at least one thousand dollars donated in his name to the Rotary Club Foundation; and

WHEREAS, Randall Goodwin served on numerous boards and commissions in Baton Rouge, including eighteen years of dedicated service on the East Baton Rouge Parish School Board and the Louisiana School Board Association, serving as president of both organizations; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Goodwin served on the BREC Parks and Recreation Commission and was instrumental in the commission's decision to acquire and develop what is known today as Highland Road Park, an expansive area of ballparks, rolling hills, and open areas often used for cross-country races by area youth; and

WHEREAS, Randall Goodwin had a broad range of interests which resulted in him becoming a founding member of the Mystic Krewe of Achilles, a board member and president of the Louisiana Arts and Science Center, now known as LASM, and a longtime board member of the Catholic-Presbyterian Apartments located in downtown Baton Rouge; and

WHEREAS, in 1959, Randall and Margaret Goodwin moved to Oak Hills subdivision, located between Highland Road and Perkins Road and between Bluebonnet Boulevard and Siegen Lane, where they lived for more than fifty years and became active members in the civic and lake associations; and

WHEREAS, a love of sports and athletics led Randall Goodwin to participate in a wide range of sports as both a team member or manager, and while at LSU, he lettered in track and field as a javelin thrower, which qualified him as a member of LSU's L-Club, a membership he treasured for the rest of his life; and

WHEREAS, years after college, Mr. Goodwin was proud to officiate at NCAA Track and Field events, serve on the LSU Athletic Council from 1994 to 1998, coach American Legion summer baseball teams, especially enjoying the years when his son, Randy, played on the teams he coached; and

WHEREAS, beyond family and community, Randall Goodwin's lifelong commitment to his faith manifested in his dedicated membership at the First Presbyterian Church of Baton Rouge where he served as Deacon, Elder, Sunday school teacher, and a member of the Roundtable and Crossroads classes; and

WHEREAS, having arrived in Baton Rouge as a small child, Randall Goodwin matured and grew with his adopted city as the end of World War II brought a new energy and commitment of business people and professionals who saw their city as full of possibilities, as yet unrealized, but they set to work making those dreams for their city a reality; and

WHEREAS, with a commitment to family, faith, and community, Randall Goodwin became an integral part of the movement to make the most of Baton Rouge's two major universities, its local culture and flavor, its unique position as the state capital, its economic drivers of oil and gas and research generated through its universities, and its human potential of artists, artisans, scholars, and entrepreneurs who collaborated to bring a vibrant and modern city on the banks of the Mississippi River into the twenty-first century, and Randall Goodwin's contribution to that transformation was considerable.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express sincere condolences upon the death of Baton Rouge insurance businessman and tireless community leader, James Randall Goodwin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the children of James Randall Goodwin: Lee Ann, Margaret, Garland, and Randy Jr.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE