

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 84

BY REPRESENTATIVES YOUNG, BAGLEY, EMERSON, AND MCMAHEN

CONDOLENCES: Expresses condolences on the death of Alton E. "Red" Franklin

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To express the condolences of the House of Representatives upon the death of Alton E.  
3 "Red" Franklin.

4 WHEREAS, it is with immense sadness and profound regret that the House of  
5 Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana has learned of the passing, on March 9,  
6 2025, of Alton E. "Red" Franklin; and

7 WHEREAS, Alton E. "Red" Franklin was born on May 1, 1935, in Centreville,  
8 Alabama, to William Henry and Velma Franklin; he graduated from Bibb County High  
9 School in Centreville and played football for the University of Alabama for one season; and

10 WHEREAS, Red transferred to Louisiana College and continued playing football;  
11 he met his future wife of sixty-three years, Beth Langford, at Louisiana College; after  
12 graduating in 1961, he spent two years teaching and coaching at Marksville High School;  
13 in 1963, he moved to Springhill High School, where he taught and served as an assistant  
14 coach; and

15 WHEREAS, Coach Franklin began teaching and coaching under M.D. Ray at  
16 Haynesville High School in 1966; he became Haynesville's head football coach in 1967;  
17 when Claiborne Parish Schools integrated in 1970, Coach Franklin led a newly-united  
18 Haynesville team to a state championship; his locker room was a place of unity during a time  
19 of uncertainty; and

1           WHEREAS, Coach Franklin remained in the head coaching role until his retirement  
2 in 2002, and he returned after one year of retirement to serve as an assistant coach under his  
3 son, David; he spent over fifty years total coaching high school football; and

4           WHEREAS, in thirty-five seasons as a head coach, Coach Franklin recorded three  
5 hundred sixty-five wins, eleven state championships, four state runner-up finishes, twenty-  
6 seven district titles, eight undefeated seasons, and thirty-one playoff appearances; he was a  
7 twenty-three-time district coach of the year, six-time state coach of the year, and two-time  
8 Region Five Coach of the Year; and

9           WHEREAS, Coach Franklin was elected as a member of the LHSCA/LHSAA Hall  
10 of Fame, Louisiana College Hall of Fame, North Louisiana Chapter of the National Football  
11 Foundation and Hall of Fame, Louisiana Sports Writers Hall of Fame, and the National  
12 Federation of State High School Associations Hall of Fame; he was the president of the  
13 Louisiana High School coaches Association for two years, served as a board member of the  
14 LHSCA Executive Committee, served on the committee that established the Louisiana High  
15 School Hall of Fame, and served on the board for the Louisiana Football Coaches  
16 Association; he was a member of the Haynesville Lion's Club and served as its president for  
17 several years; and

18           WHEREAS, Coach Franklin was a devoted member of First Baptist Church in  
19 Haynesville; he served as a deacon, sang in the church choir, and helped with the Awana's  
20 and the Upward Basketball programs; one of the highlights of his career was traveling to  
21 Belarus to serve as a counselor on a mission trip basketball camp for children; and

22           WHEREAS, Alton E. "Red" Franklin leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Beth;  
23 children, Jeff (Sheila), David (Jennifer), and Tommy (Jeni); grandchildren, Macy Garner  
24 (Jamey), Trent Franklin, Erin Franklin, Caroline Franklin, Hayden Franklin, Toby Franklin,  
25 and Blake Franklin; and great-grandchild, Eleanor Garner; he will be deeply missed, but the  
26 legacy of his loving spirit shall live on in perpetuity in the hearts and minds of those who  
27 knew and loved him.

28           THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the  
29 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express heartfelt condolences on the death of Alton E.

1 "Red" Franklin and does hereby extend sincerest wishes that his family, friends, and loved  
2 ones find comfort in their shared memories of his beautiful life.

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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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