



1           WHEREAS, Commissioner Odom served from 1979 until 2008, an unprecedented  
2 seven consecutive terms; and

3           WHEREAS, Commissioner Odom was committed to service of the American farmer,  
4 understanding that the access to food and fiber are not only life preserving, but the  
5 foundation of our state and nation; and

6           WHEREAS, he often flew his own plane while traveling throughout the world to  
7 promote Louisiana agriculture and further the economic development of our state; and

8           WHEREAS, as commissioner, he was an energetic leader known for his tireless work  
9 ethic, his tenacity, and willingness to help anyone in need; and

10          WHEREAS, Commissioner Odom was also an avid church and community leader,  
11 leading the building committee at Zachary First Baptist Church and a community renovation  
12 of the high school football field; and

13          WHEREAS, he also played a pivotal role in working with legislators and community  
14 leaders for the authorization and creation of the Zachary Community School System; and

15          WHEREAS, he wore the mantle of community service proudly and willingly, while  
16 extending courtesy and friendship to all; and

17          WHEREAS, Commissioner Odom was honored by the USDA secretary in 1970, the  
18 Louisiana Legislature in 1976, and named Progressive Farmer Man of the Year in 1996; and

19          WHEREAS, his many accomplishments were recognized by countless communities,  
20 towns, cities, boards, commissions, and organizations for his leadership and commitment to  
21 agriculture and the people of Louisiana; and

22          WHEREAS, Commissioner Odom served as president of the National Association  
23 of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), the Southern U.S. Trade Association, and  
24 the Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture, which helped bring the  
25 Louisiana agricultural industry to the national forefront; and

26          WHEREAS, he served on numerous other boards and commissions representing  
27 agriculture and was involved with many agricultural groups, including the Louisiana Farm  
28 Bureau Federation, the Louisiana Cattlemen's Association, the American Sugar Cane  
29 League, and the Southern and LSU Ag Centers; and

30          WHEREAS, Commissioner Odom spent his entire life in service to our state and

1 nation and will always be remembered for his dedication to the promotion of the agriculture  
2 industry in Louisiana; and

3 WHEREAS, Commissioner Odom is survived by his wife of nearly 46 years,  
4 Mildred "Millie" Randolph Odom; one son, Robert "Robb" Fulton Odom III and wife  
5 Monique; one daughter, Ashley Odom White and husband Ned; three granddaughters,  
6 Taylor Brooke Odom, Baylie Monet Odom, and Brighton Lynn Thompson and one  
7 grandson, Nolan Randolph Thompson; four sisters, Mary Ann Bryant, Emily Odom  
8 Honeycutt and husband Billy; Anna Bess Kelley and husband Joe; Betty Sue Broussard and  
9 husband Donald; plus a host of precious friends and extended family; and

10 WHEREAS, although the passing of Commissioner Bob Odom has left a tremendous  
11 void in his community, he leaves a rich and unique legacy that shall live on in the hearts of  
12 all who knew him and throughout the state of Louisiana.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
14 express the sincere and heartfelt condolences of the Legislature of Louisiana upon the  
15 passing of former Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry Robert Fulton "Bob" Odom Jr.,  
16 and does hereby recognize and record for posterity his life of public service and his many  
17 contributions to the state of Louisiana.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
19 family of Robert Fulton "Bob" Odom Jr.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Curry Johnson.

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DIGEST

Thompson

SCR No. 153

Expresses condolences upon the passing of former Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry Robert Fulton "Bob" Odom Jr., and to acknowledge his life of public service and his many contributions to the state of Louisiana.