



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JBE 2021-8

***FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF –
FORMER GOVERNOR CHARLES ELSON “BUDDY” ROEMER, III***

- WHEREAS,** former Governor Charles Elson “Buddy” Roemer, III died on May 17, 2021, at the age of 77;
- WHEREAS,** on March 14, 1988, Buddy Roemer was sworn in as the 52nd governor of the State of Louisiana;
- WHEREAS,** Buddy Roemer was born on October 4, 1943, in Shreveport, Louisiana, the son of Charles Elson “Budgie” Roemer, II, and the former Adeline McDade;
- WHEREAS,** after graduating in 1960 as valedictorian of Bossier High School, he earned a Bachelor of Arts and then a Master’s of Business Administration from Harvard University;
- WHEREAS,** Roemer returned home to Louisiana and served as a delegate to the Louisiana Constitutional Convention in 1973;
- WHEREAS,** in 1980, Roemer was elected to represent Louisiana’s Fourth District as a member of the House of Representatives in the United States Congress and was re-elected three times without opposition;
- WHEREAS,** in his tenure in Congress, Roemer served on the House Banking Committee and the Small Business Committee; and he founded and co-chaired the House Grace Caucus, a bipartisan group focused on federal cost-saving measures;
- WHEREAS,** after running a campaign promising to deliver a “Roemer Revolution,” Buddy Roemer was elected to the office of Governor of Louisiana on October 24, 1987;
- WHEREAS,** as Governor, Roemer was a champion of political, budgetary, and environmental reform; he issued an executive order appointing the Louisiana’s first inspector general, and he fought to toughen the state’s campaign finance laws; he successfully eliminated deficits in the state’s budget for three years, increased salaries for teachers, and championed ambitious tax and fiscal reform measures; further, he prioritized environmental protections in the state, increasing enforcement of regulations on industrial pollution and passing laws to clean up the State;
- WHEREAS,** in 2000, he was inducted into the Louisiana Political Hall of Fame;
- WHEREAS,** Governor Roemer is survived by his wife Scarlett, his three children, and five grandchildren; and
- WHEREAS,** a businessman, entrepreneur, and visionary leader, Governor Roemer was a man of great intellect, determination, vision, and integrity; and while he will be greatly missed, the legacy of his work on behalf of the people of Louisiana will live on for generations to come.

NOW THEREFORE, I, JOHN BEL EDWARDS, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution and laws of the State of Louisiana, do hereby order and direct as follows:

SECTION 1: As an expression of respect and to honor former Charles Elson “Buddy” Roemer, III, the flags of the United States and the State of Louisiana shall be flown at half-staff over the State Capitol and all state buildings from sunrise on May 17, 2021 through the day of his interment.

SECTION 2: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until sunset on the day of his interment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of Louisiana in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 17th day of May, 2021.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

SECRETARY OF STATE