



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JBE 2023-13

FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF – SENATOR FRITZ H. WINDHORST

WHEREAS, Fritz Windhorst, a former distinguished member of the Senate of the Louisiana Legislature and a Commissioner of the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana, died on Sunday, August 27, 2023, at the age of 88;

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Jennie Motto Windhorst and Richard Edward Windhorst, Sr and his sister, Angela Windhorst Tripkovich; he is survived by his beloved wife of thirty-six years, Barbara Turner Windhorst; daughters, Judith Windhorst Cahill and Stephanie Hildebrandt; and son, Judge Stephen Windhorst; grandchildren, Harry Lloyd Cahill, IV, Anna Marie Cahill, Luke John Cahill, Claire Hildebrandt Robustelli, and Chase Edward Hildebrandt; and great-grandchildren Harry Lloyd Cahill, V, and Rex Patrick Cahill; his brother Richard E Windhorst, Jr.; as well as numerous other family members and countless friends and admirers;

WHEREAS, born in 1935 in New Orleans, he graduated from Redemptorist High School and received his legal education from the Loyola University New Orleans College of Law;

WHEREAS, in 1962, Windhorst was appointed the youngest-ever United States Commissioner, serving the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana; in that position, he became nationally prominent as the chairman of the National Association of United States Commissioners and helped to craft the legislation that created the U.S. Magistrate system which replaced the role of commissioners in the United States' federal court system;

WHEREAS, in 1972, the voters of the Westbank of New Orleans elected Windhorst to serve as their Senator in the Louisiana Legislature, and he served the voters of the Parishes of Orleans and Jefferson in the State Senate for five consecutive terms, until 1992; during his tenure in the Senate, he served as floor leader for three different Governors; and he was a staunch champion of his district's interests, notably expanding infrastructure access by authoring legislation which led to the building of the Crescent City Connection bridge in New Orleans;

WHEREAS, Senator Windhorst also helped to preserve the natural heritage of Louisiana, authoring bills which created the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve; and

WHEREAS, Fritz H. Windhorst lived a life of faith, integrity, and honor, and his service as a public servant and community leader to the State of Louisiana will long be remembered.

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 Fritz H. Windhorst, 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 until sunset on Saturday, September 2, 2023.

SECTION 2: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until sunset, September 2, 2023.

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 1st day of September, 2023.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

**ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE**

SECRETARY OF STATE