State of Louisiana

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER JML 26-113

FLAGS AT HALF-STAFF – STATE REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL ROBERT "MIKE" BAYHAM

WHEREAS, State Representative Michael Robert "Mike" Bayham passed away on November 12, 2026, at the age of fifty-two, after a lifetime of service to St. Bernard Parish and the State of Louisiana;

WHEREAS, he was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on July 30, 1974, and was raised in Chalmette, where he was a proud lifelong resident of St. Bernard Parish;

WHEREAS, he graduated from Holy Cross High School and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Louisiana State University, with minors in journalism, political science, and history, where he served as president of the LSU Student Senate;

WHEREAS, at the age of twenty-six, he became the youngest person at that time ever elected to the St. Bernard Parish Council, where he served from 2001 to 2004;

WHEREAS, he continued to serve the people of St. Bernard Parish in many capacities, including overseeing the parish public school bus system;

WHEREAS, he served as a legislative aide in the Louisiana State Senate and in the Louisiana Department of Revenue and the Department of Public Affairs;

WHEREAS, he was selected to serve as a presidential elector for Louisiana in the Electoral College in 2008 and 2012;

WHEREAS, he continued his legacy of public service as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, to which he was elected in 2023 with sixty-two percent of the vote, representing District 103 and the people of St. Bernard Parish;

WHEREAS, as a member of the House of Representatives, he served on the committees overseeing insurance, commerce, and agriculture;

WHEREAS, while in the Legislature, he was a steadfast advocate for St. Bernard Parish, its people, and its way of life, a committed champion for political reform, a supporter of protecting

women in the workplace, an advocate for health screening of newborns and mothers, and a firm opponent of occupational barriers to entry into the marketplace;

WHEREAS, over three regular sessions, he authored thirty-five bills that became law, addressing public safety, motor vehicles and traffic, elections, education, insurance, and the needs of St. Bernard Parish;

WHEREAS, his most significant legislative achievement was House Bill 225 of the 2026 Regular Session, enacted as Act 414, which amended Article IV, Section 3(B) of the Constitution of Louisiana to establish a lifetime term limit for the office of governor, an amendment the voters of Louisiana adopted as Amendment 4 at the election held on November 3, 2026;

WHEREAS, he authored legislation creating the Fugitive Apprehension Unit within the Louisiana Department of Justice, requiring health insurance coverage of home visiting services for newborns and young children, requiring disclosure of the use of artificial intelligence in telephone campaign communications, and limiting penalties from automated speed enforcement devices in school zones;

WHEREAS, a devoted student of history, he served as a member of the Battle of New Orleans Bicentennial Commission, and he authored the resolution creating the America 250 Louisiana State Commission and served as its chairman, helping to lead Louisiana's celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America;

WHEREAS, he loved traveling and saw all fifty states and sixty-three countries across six continents, visiting museums and battlefields around the world;

WHEREAS, he was a devout Catholic and a parishioner of Our Lady of Prompt Succor Catholic Church in Chalmette;

WHEREAS, his faith accompanied him throughout his travels, as he attended Mass in every state in the nation and made religious pilgrimages to Mexico City, Canterbury, Fatima, Paris, Rome, Lourdes, Medjugorje, Jerusalem, and Bethlehem;

WHEREAS, he presented Pope Leo XIV with a resolution congratulating him on becoming the first American pope along with gifts from St. Bernard Parish;

WHEREAS, he will be remembered by his colleagues and friends as a passionate and principled public servant whose love for St. Bernard Parish was unmatched;

WHEREAS, his legacy of kindness and friendship is reflected in his final request for all that knew him to perform random acts of kindness to remind people there is still love in this fractured world;

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his grandparents, Mickey and Evette Bayham and Albert and Shirley Gomez; and his brother, Scotty Bayham;

WHEREAS, he is survived by his mother and stepfather, Kathleen Gomez and Daniel Boteler; his sister, Danielle Boteler; and his cousin, Richie Baumy; along with countless other relatives;

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana is indebted to him for his years of leadership and contributions.

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

Section 1: As an expression of respect and to honor State Representative Michael Robert "Mike" Bayham 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 Friday, November 20, 2026.

Section 2: This Order is effective upon signature and shall remain in effect until sunset on Friday, November 20, 2026.

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 18th day of November, 2026.

Jeff Landry
GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

Nancy Landry
SECRETARY OF STATE