

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 117

BY REPRESENTATIVES NORTON, BADON, BARROW, WESLEY BISHOP, BROSSETT, BURRELL, COX, DIXON, FRANKLIN, GAINES, HONORE, HUNTER, GIROD JACKSON, KATRINA JACKSON, JAMES, JEFFERSON, TERRY LANDRY, PIERRE, PRICE, SMITH, THIERRY, ALFRED WILLIAMS, AND PATRICK WILLIAMS AND SENATORS ADLEY, ALARIO, ALLAIN, AMEDEE, APPEL, BROOME, BROWN, BUFFINGTON, CHABERT, CLAITOR, CORTEZ, CROWE, DONAHUE, DORSEY-COLOMB, ERDEY, GALLOT, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER, JOHNS, KOSTELKA, LAFLEUR, LONG, MARTINY, MILLS, MORRELL, MORRISH, MURRAY, NEVERS, PEACOCK, PERRY, PETERSON, RISER, GARY SMITH, JOHN SMITH, TARVER, THOMPSON, WALSWORTH, WARD, AND WHITE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To express the condolences upon the death of the Reverend Danny Mitchell, former state representative for Louisiana House District No. 2.

WHEREAS, the members of the Legislature of Louisiana wish to express their heartfelt sorrow upon the departure from this life of the Reverend Danny Mitchell of Shreveport; and

WHEREAS, on May 2, 2013, at the age of sixty-nine, Reverend Mitchell exchanged his earthly, temporal life for a glorious, eternal one; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell, beloved husband of Yvonne Moore Mitchell, father of six children and ten grandchildren, was an esteemed public servant who left an indelible mark upon the lives of the citizens of Bossier and Caddo parishes; and

WHEREAS, in the early years of his life, Reverend Mitchell developed an appreciation for the rewards of diligence by working as a caddy at a country club and picking and chopping cotton on a plantation; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell answered the first call to government service by enlisting in the Air Force, where he served honorably from 1964 through 1968; and

WHEREAS, while in the military, Reverend Mitchell enrolled in the University of Maryland and later completed his education at Southern University; and

WHEREAS, upon his discharge from the Air Force, Reverend Mitchell procured a job at a clothing store in Shreveport, which he eventually bought, and he opened a second business a short time later; and

WHEREAS, in 1976, Reverend Mitchell answered a different call, one to the ministry of God's Word as a preacher and pastor, shepherding New Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church in Shreveport for many years; and

WHEREAS, the second call to government service for Reverend Mitchell came when he ran for and won the Louisiana House District No. 2 seat in 1992 and subsequently won reelection in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell successfully carried out the concurrent duties of legislator and pastor, and whether in the pulpit in Shreveport or at the state capitol in Baton Rouge, he fought against crime, poverty, and the racial division that he had witnessed throughout his life; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Mitchell's particular passion against gun crimes and violence led his multiracial congregation to offer summer programs and job-finding aid to youth in his district, which attracted the attention of Governor Edwin W. Edwards, who was the keynote speaker at the eleventh year anniversary, in 1992, of Reverend Mitchell's pastorship of New Elizabeth Missionary Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, the death of the Reverend Danny Mitchell has left a void in his church and in the community he served so well and has created a genuine sense of sorrow and loss in the many citizens whose lives he touched.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby express genuine sorrow upon the death of the Reverend Danny Mitchell and does hereby extend sincere condolences to his family, congregation, and the community as they mourn his departure to his eternal home.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the family of the Reverend Danny Mitchell.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE