

1 WHEREAS, even when she was tired, Mrs. Ceil gave selflessly of herself to her
2 family, her church, and her community, and she will always be remembered for her smile,
3 her great words of wisdom, and her spirit that lit up the room; and

4 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ceil was a loving and devoted daughter, wife, mother,
5 grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, godmother, and friend, and the entire Cane River
6 community mourns the loss of this remarkable woman; and

7 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ceil was preceded in death by her husband; two sons, James and
8 Cleo Balthazar; one great-grandson, Dylan Balthazar; two brothers, Leo and Thomas
9 Metoyer; and three sisters, Marie Meziere, Clara Llorens, and Rosa Metoyer; and

10 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ceil leaves to cherish her memory one sister, Felicity Wills; ten
11 children, Andrew Balthazar and wife Patricia, Helen Rachal and husband Edgar, Dorothy
12 Rachal and husband Patrick, Fred Balthazar and wife Maggie, Lireda Balthazar, Leslie
13 Balthazar and wife Cindy, Cecilia Marie Jones and husband Pete, Josephine Roque and
14 husband Clyde, Donald Balthazar, and Catherine Rachal and husband Henry; other devoted
15 family members, Lorenza Balthazar, Bernard Metoyer and wife Angela, Andrew Balthazar,
16 Jr. and wife Kathy, and Eric J. Balthazar; thirty-two grandchildren, forty-seven great-
17 grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces, nephews, godchildren,
18 relatives, and friends; and

19 WHEREAS, the promise of the afterlife that Mrs. Ceil is assuredly partaking in is
20 illustrated in the hymn "On Eagles Wings", which states, "And He will raise you up, On
21 Eagle's wings, Bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you
22 in the palm of His hands"; and

23 WHEREAS, Mrs. Ceil was a matriarch of the Cane River colony of Creoles, a
24 woman of grace, beauty, compassion, and tremendous faith who was highly admired and
25 respected for the delicious dishes that she prepared at community gatherings, her
26 unbreakable commitment to her family, and her unceasing faith in God; and

27 WHEREAS, far beyond our feeble and finite understanding, Mrs. Ceil now enjoys
28 the truth of 1 Corinthians 2:9, "Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, and no mind has
29 imagined the splendor that God has prepared for those who love Him"; and

1 WHEREAS, with the death of Mrs. Cecilia Balthazar, Louisiana has lost one of her
2 finest daughters, and she leaves behind a rich and unique legacy of tenacity, determination,
3 integrity, strength, and a strong belief in prayer; and

4 WHEREAS, the death of Mrs. Ceil has left an abiding void in the many lives she
5 touched throughout her life, and her memory shall remain eternal in the hearts and minds of
6 all those who knew and loved her.

7 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
8 express its sincere sorrow and heartfelt condolences upon the death of Cecilia Arcene
9 Metoyer Balthazar, does hereby recognize her extraordinary faith and many years of service
10 to St. Augustine Catholic Church, the Confraternity of Christian Mothers, and the Cane
11 River community, does hereby record for posterity her tremendous gifts and capacity to love,
12 her outstanding abilities as a cook, and her generosity and kindness, does hereby extend
13 appreciation for her enduring legacy that will continue to be a source of great pride,
14 inspiration, and honor for her family and friends, her community, and the state of Louisiana,
15 and does hereby express the deep regret of the entire state upon the loss of this magnificent
16 woman.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted
18 to the family of Cecilia Arcene Metoyer Balthazar.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Cox

HCR No. 183

Expresses the condolences of the legislature upon the death of Mrs. Cecilia Arcene Metoyer Balthazar of Cane River.