

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 36

BY REPRESENTATIVE BURRELL AND SENATOR PEACOCK

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To commend Reverend Ernest Edward "E.E." Jones, Sr., for more than fifty-five years of faithful and dedicated service as pastor of Galilee Baptist Church in Shreveport.

WHEREAS, in 1958, Rev. E.E. Jones answered the call of God to shepherd His flock at Galilee Baptist Church at 854 Williamson Street in Shreveport; under his leadership, the flock has since outgrown the former property and is now housed in a magnificent edifice at 1500 Pierre Avenue; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Jones is infused with a caliber of care for the disenfranchised that parallels that of Jesus Christ, who healed and restored the downtrodden; Rev. Jones led the charge in Shreveport for civil rights equality in the education of children by filing suit to desegregate Caddo Parish public schools in 1965; and

WHEREAS, the social justice steps of Rev. Jones led him to positions of authority in local, state, and national Baptist associations and conventions; in the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc., he held the offices of social justice commission chairman and vice president, and in 1985, he was elected president and served until 2003; and

WHEREAS, during his leadership of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc., Rev. Jones remained steadfast in his pastoral care of the inner-city, faith-based community of Galilee Baptist Church, a community that now occupies more than forty acres and whose members lovingly call the property "the City of Galilee, a city within a city"; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Jones has received numerous honorary doctoral degrees and awards, including the National Award for Outstanding Service from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.; he was inducted into the Grambling State University Hall of Fame in 1986 and into the Northwest Louisiana Hall of Fame in 1992; and

WHEREAS, Rev. Jones exhibits the vitality and wisdom of the Biblical prophet Moses, who was eighty years old when he led the children of Israel out of bondage in Egypt; at the age of eighty-two, Rev. Jones continues to carry out the vision God gave him to promote positive change for minorities in his community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Legislature of Louisiana do hereby commend Rev. Ernest Edward Jones, Sr., upon the milestone of his fifty-fifth year as pastor of Galilee Baptist Church in Shreveport; do hereby salute the fervent, dutiful work of Rev. Jones in the arenas of civil rights, social reform, and education; do hereby offer their most sincere congratulations to Rev. Jones on the significant contributions he has made in changing the landscape of Louisiana for the better; and do hereby extend best wishes and prayers that God will bless Rev. E.E. Jones to continue his pastoral care of Galilee Baptist Church and the Shreveport community for many years to come.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a suitable copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Rev. Ernest Edward Jones, Sr.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE